NORTH-WEST DURHAM EMIGRATION AGENCY.

PERSONS wishing to EMIGRATE can be Booked by the Best Lines to America, Australia, and all Parts of the World, at the Lowest Rates, on application to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, the only Authorised Agent for the Queensland Government in the District; or to Mr. JOHN CHAYTOR, Grocer, West Stanley.

TO PARTIES REMOVING OR LEAVING THE COUNTRY AND OTHERS.

ADAM BRODIE, assisted by his Son, ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, undertakes the SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION of Household Furniture, Farming Stock, House Property, and other Effects, in the most approved manner, and on reasonable terms. Instructions by Post punctually attended to.

Note the Address:—Town Hall, Consett.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

ADAM BRODIE,
SHARE AND INSURANCE BROKER
TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
LOCAL GAS, WATER, AND OTHER SHARES BOUGHT AND SOLD.
DEALER IN STEAMSHIP SHARES.

FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, AND PLATE GLASS INSURANCE AGENCY.

ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, wishes to draw the attention of the public to the fact that Insurances of every description can be effected through his Agency, and that the Offices he represents are noted for prompt Settlement of Claims.

Note.—The Oldest Insurance Agency and the only Share Broker in the District,
ADAM BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

No. 1,329. | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, January 22nd, 1886. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

Contracts.

SANITARY PIPES.—TENDERS given for SANITARY PIPES, BRICKS, and FIRE CLAY GOODS of all kinds.—Apply to R. CURRY & Co., Delves Lane, Consett.

Lost.

LOST on Saturday night, January 9th (supposed between Selby Lodge and Consett, a BLUE CUSHION, for back seat of Dog Cart. 2s. 6d. Reward.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office. 607v

LOST, from the Library recently belonging to the Consett Young Men's Christian Association, but now transferred to the Reading and Recreation Rooms, "THE LIFE OF DR. NORMAN McLEOD," in Two Volumes.—Whoever has possession of the same is requested to return it to Mr. ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, the Secretary.

Found.

FOUND, a SCOTCH EWE. If not claimed in seven days will be sold to defray expenses.—Apply to T. STEPHENSON, Upper Houses, Lanchester.

Wanted.

WANTED, a respectable HOUSEKEEPER.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett.

WANTED, a strong, active GIRL as General Servant.—Apply to *Guardian* Office.

WANTED, at once, a respectable GIRL, about 17.—Apply to Mrs. JACKSON, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 620v

WANTED, a respectable Youth, as Club Money COLLECTOR.—Apply, R. VON DIX, Mount Pleasant, Consett. 617v

WANTED, HOUSEKEEPER for a Farm House accustomed to Dairy, with good character.—Apply to N. BROWN, Saddler, Shotley Bridge.

AGENTS WANTED to push first-class Machinery Oils. Liberal Commission.—Box 31, Post Office, Liverpool. 562v

WANTED immediately, a steady elderly respectable Woman as HOUSEKEEPER; Two Children; comfortable home.—Apply, 48, Benfieldside Edge Road, Blackhill. 614v

WANTED, Ladies' and Gentlemen's CAST-OFF CLOTHES, &c. Personal attendance in Town or Country. Letters of call immediately attended to.—Mrs. J. QUIGLEY, 5, Front Street, Consett. 396v

SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE.

LADIES requiring Servants; also, Servants wanting Situations.—Apply to Miss COCKBURN, at the S. R. O., 13, Front Street, Consett. 828s

WANTED, by the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, a Young Woman, not under 18 years of age, as ASSISTANT in the Drapery Department.—Applicants to meet the Committee on Monday night, January 25th, at Half-past Seven. To state wages required. 600v

WANTED, AGENTS and Photographic Canvassers, Clerks, Foremen of Works, &c., to form Clubs, and to solicit orders for R. VON DIX'S "Excelsior" Portraits. The best and cheapest in England. By this means from £1 to £3 per week may be added to your income.—Apply personally to 10, Mount Pleasant, Consett. 573v

To Let.

HOUSE TO LET; Main Street, Lanchester.—Apply to Mr. WILLIAM INNESS, Lanchester.

HOUSE TO LET, in Watling Street, Leadgate. Apply to Mr. T. D. DRYDEN, Leadgate. 474v

TO LET, a COTTAGE with Two Rooms and Garden, at Templetown.—Apply to SAMUEL TEMPERLEY, Delves Terrace. 547v

TO LET, a BUTCHER'S SHOP, at Kyo.—Apply to WILLIAM WILKINSON, Ironmonger, Catchgate. 368y

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP, No. 16, Front Street, Shotley Bridge.—For rent and paticulars apply to HODGKIN, BARNETT, & Co., Bankers, Shotley Bridge. 353v

TO LET, a TWO-ROOMED HOUSE, situate in Watling Street, Leadgate. Rent, 2s. 9d. a-week, including everything.—Apply, M. ROBSON, Builder, Leadgate. 556v

TO LET, on the Leazes, Burnopfield, a HOUSE containing Eight Rooms, with a Large Garden attached. This House is suitable for either one tenant, or two tenants, each taking four rooms.—Apply to M. ADAMSON, Leazes, *via* Lintz Green.

TO LET, at Shotley Bridge, ONE-HALF OF A SEMI-DETACHED COTTAGE RESIDENCE, containing Six Rooms and Kitchen, good Pantry, W.C., and necessary Conveniences, also a small Garden or Lawn on the South Side, with access from the Terrace.—Apply, T. B. SAWBRIDGE Guildhall Chambers, Newcastle. 54v

TO LET, from 13th May ensuing, by Lease or by Year, the HOUSE and PASTURE LAND, at Stoney Heap, now occupied by J. Foreman, together with about 25 ACRES OF ARABLE LAND adjacent to the same, and the EATAGE of about Eight Acres of Woodland, in all about 40 Acres.—Apply to J. DUNN, Esq., Little Shelford, Cambridgeshire, before the end of January. Mr. Gibson, of Copwell Cottage, will point out the Estate. 530v

TO LET, at Catchgate, a HOUSE and SHOP, lately in the occupation of Mr. J. W. Davison, Furniture Broker. These Premises were originally built for a first-class Butcher's Shop, having an excellent Slaughter House, fine dry Cellar (cemented, well-aired, and adapted to keep meat in warm weather. There is also a good Two-Stalled STABLE and all necessary Conveniences. The Shop is well situated, and suitable for any business. A Capital opening for a Pawnbroker or Auction Mart.—Apply to GEORGE HOBSON, Harperley Mills, Lintz Green.

TO MARKET GARDENERS, COW-KEEPERS, AND OTHERS.

TO LET, by Tender, at February or May Term (to suit a good Tenant), ROSE COTTAGE, Hare Law, containing Front and Back Kitchens, Sitting-room, 2 Bed-rooms, with Dairy, Stable, Coach-house, Cow Byre, Piggery, Hen Houses, &c. Also, a Large GARDEN well stocked with Fruit Trees, and a PIECE OF GRASS LAND.—For particulars apply to WM. WILKINSON, Ironmonger, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green. 561v

For Sale.

WASTE PAPER FOR SALE, at 1d. per lb.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett.

INCALVING HEIFERS FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. BULMAN, Woodlands, Consett. 404v

TURNIPS FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. BULMAN, Woodlands, Consett.

BULL CALVES, by Pedigree Bull, FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. BULMAN, Woodlands, Consett.

FOR SALE, COWS and HEIFERS at profit.—Apply, W. C. BOWMAN, Hole House, Lanchester. 196v

FOR SALE, a LITTER OF PIGS, 10 weeks old.—Apply to PHILIP TRAYNOR, Lizzie Colliery, Annfield Plain. 575v

FOR SALE, Privately, a convenient HOUSE with Four Rooms, site, and Large Garden.—Apply to G. ROBINSON, 10, Ledger Terrace, Blackhill.

FOR SALE, Five Excellent HARMONIUMS, and Superior PIANO.—Will be sold very cheap on application to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton.

HOUSE FOR SALE or TO LET, with immediate possession, situate at Iveston Bank.—For particulars apply to JOHN J. HETHERINGTON, 26, Market Place, Durham. 346v

TO INNKEEPER.—SPIRIT STOCK BOOKS. One Shilling each, may be obtained at the "Guardian" Office, Consett; or sent by Post on receipt of 13 Postage Stamps.

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a New, Well-built HOUSE, with W.C. and every Convenience. No. 14, Mount Pleasant, Consett.—Apply to Mr. WM. ELLIOTT, New Town Hall, Consett. 465v

FOR SALE, One WAGGONETTE, for single or double harness; One WHITECHAPEL; One DOG CART; One SPRING CART, suitable for Grocer or Wine Merchant. The above are all built by Messrs. Angus & Co., Newcastle, and are all in good condition. Also, DOUBLE and SINGLE SETS of HARNESS.—Apply to WILLIAM TURNER, Whitehall Lodge, Blackhill. 590v

AN IMPORTANT FACT.

£10 AND UPWARDS CAREFULLY INVESTED in Options on Stocks and Shares is the safest and most popular way of rapidly making money on the Stock Exchange, by the non-liability system. Explanatory Book (8th edition), giving full details, *Gratis and Post Free*.—Address, GEORGE EVANS & Co., Stockbrokers, Gresham House, London, E.C. 308v

Business Announcements.

MESSRS. G. T. TINN & SONS,
SURGEON DENTISTS,
42, NEW BRIDGE STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted on the latest and most improved system, without causing the slightest pain, of the Purest and Best Materials.

All operations performed with the greatest care, and on the most reasonable terms.

MINERAL TEETH FROM 5s. PER TOOTH.

UPPER OR LOWER SETS FROM £2 10s.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

DAWSON and CO.'S Old-established Pianoforte Business is REMOVED from 1 and 1A, Saville Row, to SPACIOUS PREMISES at 142, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Largest Stock in the North. Pianos from 16 Guineas. Violins, Brass, and all Small Instruments.

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER,
VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
CO. DURHAM.

VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.

Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places:—Benfieldside Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Finings Estate, Langley Park, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.

All business properly and carefully attended to.

YOU ARE INVITED TO BUY YOUR BOOTS AND SHOES AT JOHN GIBSON'S NEW SHOP

CORNER OF FOUNDRY ROW AND BESSEMER STREET, BLACKHILL (near the Railway Station),

As they are unsurpassed for FITTING and DURABILITY.

A Well-selected Stock always on hand.

All Goods marked in plain figures, at LOWEST READY-MONEY PRICES.

BOOTS MADE TO MEASURE, AND REPAIRS OF ALL KINDS DONE AS USUAL. 539u

AUSTRIAN FLOUR.

UHL AND CO.'S VIENNA FLOUR.

PURVEYORS TO HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

THE BEST FLOUR FOR HOUSEHOLD USE IS

UHL'S VIENNA FLOUR

NUTRITIOUS. DIGESTIVE. WARRANTED PURE.

Yielding an unusual quantity of Bread, and unequalled in quality by any other Flour known. Delivered to all parts of the United Kingdom, in 5 or 20 stone Bags.

For samples and quotations for single or more Bags, apply to

EDWARD FRYD, Sole Agent,
WHITE HART YARD,
(Entrance opposite North-Eastern Bank, Grey Street),
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
THE TRADE ALSO SUPPLIED.

UHL'S VIENNA FLOUR

NOW ALSO SOLD BY ALL LEADING GROCERS AND FLOUR DEALERS IN 6LB. COTTON BAGS.

Retailers not yet supplied, please apply to
EDWARD FRYD, SOLE AGENT,
WHITE HART YARD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

HUGHES & CO.'S
PHARMACY,
OPPOSITE THE NEW TOWN HALL,

CURRY'S Invaluable STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

CURRY'S TOOTHACHE DROPS.

HUGHES' Cough, Rheumatic, and Neuralgic Pills. The IXL Blood Purifying Mixture and Pills. Rheumatic and Gout Mixture, Hop, Dandelion, and Mandrake Bitters. Concentrated Sweet Essence of Senna. Compound Decoction of the finest Red Jamaica Sarsaparilla. Tonga, the new Specific for Neuralgia. Raspberry Beer Powder.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

DR. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC APPLIANCES.

AGENTS FOR THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST OPTICAL ASSOCIATION.

SPECTACLES IN GREAT VARIETY.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, AND VARNISHES.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

ALTERATIVE POWDER FOR HORSES

SHEEP DIPS—COOPER'S, BELL & RIDDLE'S McDOUGALL'S, AND OTHER KINDS.

HUGHES & CO.,
54, FRONT STREET CONSETT

Business Announcements.

ORDER

NESTLE'S

SWISS MILK

TRADE MARK

AND YOU WILL BE PLEASED WITH IT. 553v

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWARD AND SON, and you will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 10lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 5lbs. of INDIAN TEA (the Finest Tea in the World). Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half of each kind as you may direct.

WILLIAM STEWART & SON,

23, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

W. T. SMITH,
SURGEON DENTIST,
OF 22, NEW BRIDGE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

WILL VISIT CONSETT EVERY MONDAY from 11 a.m. to 5·30 p.m., at No. 3, MOUNT PLEASANT, where he will be happy to see his old and new patients.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted from 3s. 6d. per TOOTH, with all the Latest and Best ENGLISH and AMERICAN IMPROVEMENTS.

No CHARGE until a PERFECT FIT IS MADE, and ENTIRE SATISFACTION GIVEN.

Mr. SMITH will, with pleasure, call at the Residence of Patients to suit their convenience.

REMEMBER THE HOUSE:—
No. 3, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. 390v

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES

(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM),

STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,

HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET.

BRICKS! SANITARY PIPES!

FIRE BRICKS, 2½in. and 3in., QUARLS, various sizes, GROUND FIRE CLAY, COMMON RED BRICKS, RIDGE TILES, FIRE BACKS for Glendinning Ovens, FLUE BRICKS, CHIMNEY TOPS, KITCHEN SINKS, GULLIES, JUNCTIONS, BENDS, ELBOWS, TAPERS, GARDEN EDGING, CEMENT, PLASTER, LATHS, HAIR, LIME, TACKS, SAND, COALS COKE, &c., can be Supplied in Large or Small Quantities by applying to

R. CURRY AND CO.

DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

STOCK OF BRICKS, PIPES, &c., AT DELVES LANE DEPOT.

824t CEMENT, PLASTER, &c., AT WAREHOUSE, GIBSON STREET.

THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS!

9, 9A, AND 22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

THE SALE OF SALVAGE GOODS FROM THE RECENT FIRE IS NOW GOING ON.

ALL CLASSES OF GOODS AT SPECIALLY LOW PRICES.

COME AND JUDGE FOR YOURSELVES.

THOMAS H. BATCHELOR

PERSONS WISHING TO MAKE UP THEIR HORSES FOR SALE OR SHOW, SHOULD USE THE

"OPTIMUS" HORSE MIXTURE.

IT IS UNEQUALLED BY ANY OTHER MIXTURE.

PREPARED ONLY BY
JOHN HUME AND SONS,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
BRANCH—MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 583r

HALL'S for OIL CAKE and COTTON CAKE.
HALL'S for HORSE FEED.
HALL'S for CATTLE SPICE.
HALL'S for FINEST HUNGARIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST CALIFORNIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW PROCESS FLOUR.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the BEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST TEAS.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW SEASON TEA.
HALL'S for BEST ASSAM TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST DARJIELING TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST BUTTER.
HALL'S for BEST LARD.
HALL'S for MANNA CAKE.

HALL'S is the RIGHT SHOP for all who want a good Article combined with Cheapness.

STARCHES, BLUES, PATENT MEDICINES, and all PACKETED GOODS 10 to 50 per cent Cheaper than the usual Price.

JOHN HALL, WHOLESALE GROCER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN 289t

Business Announcements.

HAVE YOU SEEN IT?

THE 2 W.'S PRIZE ALMANACK!

GIVEN AWAY TO EVERY PURCHASER OF OUR HATS AND SHIRTS, FROM 2s. 6d. UPWARDS.

AT

THE 2 W.'S HAT SHOP,

NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT, AND NEWCASTLE. 449v

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS

NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN.

GEORGE HOBSON,

WHOLESALE

MILLER AND CORN MERCHANT, FIELD SEEDSMAN, &c.,

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF

PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.

INDIAN MEAL, PEA MEAL, BARLEY MEAL, BOXINGS, SHARPS, AND BRAN.

OATS, WHOLE AND CRUSHED, and FEEDING STUFFS of every Description.

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED,

Thoroughly Cleaned by New and Improved Machinery, Spiced, or otherwise, to order.

HOBSON'S IMPROVED CONDIMENT FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, STACKING, &c., Cheapest and Best in the Market.

HOBSON'S AROMATIC CALF FOOD, REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.

This Calf Meal is an excellent substitute for Milk, and what is of very great importance to Stock Breeders, it tends greatly to save Calves from that Inflammatory Fever commonly called Quarter-ill or Black Leg.

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF

PERMANENT CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturalists of the district upwards of thirty-eight years.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. 427r

JOHN WALKER & CO.,

BISCUIT MANUFACTURERS TO THE QUEEN, GLASGOW,

BEG particularly to call the attention of the Public to the superior quality of their Biscuits, which are manufactured only from the finest machines.

They submit a few of their Specialties, which are well worthy of a trial, viz:—Alberts, rich Tea, Wine, Shaughran, Water, Ginger Nuts, extra Toast, Digestive (rich and royal); also, their famed Scotch Farls (rich) and Scotch Oat Cakes (plain). These can be had from all Grocers, and from their Wholesale Agents, CURRY & CO., CONSETT.

THOUSANDS OF SUFFERERS

Have been effectually

CURED

BY LAMONT'S SELF-CURATIVE

MAGNETIC BELTS

For Lumbago, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Liver Complaints, &c.
INVIGORATORS for all Bronchial and Lung Complaints.
CHEST PROTECTORS for Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, &c.
KNEE CAPS for Sore and Weak Knees.
SOLES for Cold Feet.
SPINE BANDS, WRISTLETS, ANKLETS, GLOVES, &c.

THESE UNRIVALLED MAGNETIC APPLIANCES are still receiving the marks of continued and increasing favour. They need no attention, give no shocks, are as comfortable to wear as an ordinary garment, and, as they last for several years, and are RE-MAGNETISED FREE EVERY YEAR, they are without exception the most economical, effective, and pleasant remedy extant.

COLDS.—ALL PERSONS who are subject to COLDS BRONCHIAL, and LUNG COMPLAINTS should wear one of

LAMONT'S MAGNETIC LUNG INVIGORATORS.

They are now worn by thousands of persons in all parts of the country, and the testimony on all hands is that they are "WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD AS A PROTECTION FROM COLD and Bronchial Attacks during the winter season."

MR. LAMONT has much pleasure in publishing the following Testimonials, recently received. Further particulars will be found in DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET, POST FREE.

CURE OF BRONCHITIS.

31, Weardale Street, Mount Pleasant,
Spennymoor, November 7th, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—It is now five months since I sent for one of your Magnetic Invigorators for my little girl. She was very ill with bronchitis, and we applied the Invigorator as soon as it came. I am glad to inform you the effect was marvellous. We had lost all hopes of her recovery, but thanks to your Magnetic Appliances, she is now as fine and as healthy a child as you could wish to see.

You will remember that I got one for our son, and he also is now quite strong. You can refer any one to me who disputes anything I have said. You can make what use you like of this, for we bless the day that we got the Magnetic Appliances for our children.—Yours truly,

Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN JEFFERSON.

CURE OF BRONCHITIS.

Board School, Arthurs Hill,
Newcastle-on-Tyne, July 2nd, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—I can heartily recommend your Magnetic Lung Invigorators, my daughter having used one for the last six months. She has been subject to severe attacks of Bronchitis for the last 10 years, and I tried all sorts of remedies to relieve her before she began to use your Invigorator. It has removed all pain and suffering, and she has not had a cold since she began to wear it. I am in every way satisfied with it.—Yours truly,

Mr D. Lamont. GEORGE PRINGLE.

"IT HAS COMPLETELY CURED ME."

65, Eleanor Street, Cullercoats,
March 9th, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—It is with the greatest pleasure I write to inform you of the effect the Magnetic Invigorator I purchased from you has had upon me. Prior to purchasing it I was troubled with a weakness in my chest, also with indigestion, the accompanying evils of which I need not mention.

Now, I am not one to fly to any new remedy that may present itself to me, as some do, and aggravate the complaint. With my own conception of the value of magnetism as a curative, I resolved to try a Magnetic Appliance, which I have worn for twelve months, and the best proof I can give of its efficacy is by saying that it has *completely cured me*, and more than that, it has had a most wonderful effect upon the whole of my system. It is comfortable to wear and effectual in its operations. It causes no unpleasant sensation and can be "cast" with safety.—I am, yours &c.,

Mr D. Lamont. C. W. MASON.

THE SPECIAL MAGNETIC BELT at 21s., and SPECIAL LUNG INVIGORATOR at 21s., continue to give unbounded satisfaction. Sent Post Free on receipt of 21s.

CALL OR WRITE FOR PAMPHLET.
GRATIS AND POST FREE.

D. LAMONT'S MAGNETIC DEPOT,
(PERMANENT AND ONLY ADDRESS),
44A BLACKETT STREET NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
AGENT FOR CONSETT:—Mr. THOMAS MILNER, Chemist.

EDUCATIONAL.

JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.

PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.

Accommodation for passengers equal to any European Line.

Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

THE SHORTEST AND BEST ROUTE TO THE WEST.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, & CO., 17 and 19, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law. 85a

GREAT BARGAINS!

AT

C. F. COOKE'S,

NOTED CHEAP SHOP,

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

ARRIVAL OF SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF NEW GOODS FOR THE SEASON.

NEW DESIGNS IN MEN'S SUITS, FROM 14s. 6d., 30s., and 39s. 6d.

BLACK WORSTED SUITS, FROM 24s. 6d.

BOYS' SUITS, FROM 3s. 6d.

GRAND LOT OF MEN'S FELT HATS and CAPS IN ALL THE LEADING SHAPES, ALL AT LOW PRICES.

C. F. COOKE, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER PRINTED AND PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT.

THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN"

AFTER ATTAINING A LARGE AND INCREASING CIRCULATION HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLY ENLARGED AND MAINTAINS ITS POSITION AS THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

Full and Impartial Reports of all Meetings in the District (by its own Reporters). The General News is carefully condensed, and special attention is given to Local News, by Agents of known ability and character.

TO ADVERTISERS.

THE *CONSETT GUARDIAN*

Has now been established upwards of twenty-six years, and has gained a most extensive circulation in Consett, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Lanchester, Annfield Plain, Medomsley, Ebchester, Castleside, Tow Law, Burnopfield, Lintz Green, Rowland's Gill, Iveston, Dipton, Burnhope, South Moor, Stanley, Tanfield, Tanfield Lea, Tantobie, White-le-Head, Hobson, Clough Dene, Swalwell, and the adjacent locality.

The large and increasing circulation of the *Consett Guardian* renders it invaluable as an advertising medium, and current Advertisements are inserted in its columns at moderate charges. Advertisements for lengthened periods are subject to considerable reduction.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON AT 59, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Where Advertisements are received up to NINE o'clock on that morning.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 1886.

GREECE GOING TO WAR.

There seems to be an epidemic of campaigns in the East of Europe. No sooner have Bulgaria and Roumelia composed their differences than Greece resolves to take up arms. She has indeed been contemplating the step for some time past, having made various applications to the Powers for sanction and assistance. These appeals, it is understood, were one and all rejected. England would not approve, neither would France. The German States, each for its private reasons, deemed it inexpedient to encourage; while Russia, although entertaining a certain degree of sympathy with Greek aspirations, was not desirous of promoting designs which were unlikely to result in advantage to herself. It appears, however, that Greece, failing help from every quarter, has determined to take things into her own hands. She has addressed a note of justification to the Powers, which is always the preliminary step to war, her grievance being that the swallowing-up of a large Hellenic population by the union of Eastern Roumelia with Bulgaria deprives her of an ulterior right, and will prevent the development of the nationality which for years past she has been led to believe was to be committed to her care. Greece dreads a strong Bulgaria, and fears, or affects to fear, that this State will ere long set up claims to a large portion of Macedonia, and possibly of Thrace, thus frustrating the intention of the Berlin Congress, which was to award these provinces to her, albeit that for the nonce were given her instead Thessaly and a corner of Epirus. There is said to be strong unanimity of feeling on the subject with King, Government, and people. Preparations are being made on a large scale; a hundred thousand suits of regimentals have been ordered abroad; three torpedo vessels are on the point of delivery; and more Reservists are to be forthwith called out. It is asserted that an Australian firm has orders for the supply of twenty million cartridges to the Greek Government. It will be no trouble to stir up the nation, nor will emissaries be needed from foreign States to foment disturbance or strife. The Greeks have certainly a cause, although it is not one which any Power, however sympathetic, would be justified in promoting just now. There is no oppression, no great desire on the part of the populations in question to exchange one Government for the other. It will be war for an idea—a kind which seldom succeeds. A Greek invasion of Turkish territory would not have even the justification which NAPOLEON III. claimed for his attack upon Austria. This was war for an idea, as far as he was concerned, though there was a large population anxious to be freed from a foreign yoke, and there was a prospect—accomplished much sooner than was believed possible—of a United Italy. The idea of Greece is a sentimental one, and might have been fought for quite as justificably twenty years ago as now. In theory the unity of the Greek people is attractive—we may even say desirable. The glories of the past, the heroic endeavours which have from time to time been made, the hardships which many portions of the race formerly endowed, the experiment of release so successfully carried out by a nation similar in position and aspiration, all seem to justify an attempt to gather together a scattered people into a single homogeneous State. These considerations, however, are not strong enough to ensure outside help. England or France or Russia would deserve the condemnation of Europe were either to encourage directly or indirectly such a disturbance of Eastern politics. Whatever is done must be carried out by Greece herself; and the task is by no means a light one, considering the inherent weakness of the Greek military organization and the matured experience of Turkish soldiers.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, nor do we undertake to return their communications.—Ed. C.G.)

THE STATE CHURCH

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—The Tories are very fond of quoting Mr Gladstone in support of Tory injustice in reference to the parsons. Perhaps I may be allowed to have a turn at quoting:—"My opinion is that religious equality is a phrase which requires further development, and I will develop it further, by saying that in religious equality I include its fullest extent, Disestablishment,"—W. E. Gladstone. The above extract shows that Mr Gladstone is not far from the "Kingdom."—Yours, &c.,

HENRY CAESS.

January 19th, 1886.

METHODISM AT RAMSHAW.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—As the population of Ramshaw is small and very much scattered, and whereas the Wesleyan and Primitive Societies only number seven members each, it is admitted on all hands, both by Wesleyans, Primitives, Church people, and by those belonging no Church at all, that the two societies should amalgamate and form one church. Existing arrangements cause both a waste of labour and money. I beg to ascribe a few reasons why the Wesleyans should unite with the Primitives:—

1st.—The Primitive Methodists contribute to the quarter day (including horse hire) five times more than the Wesleyans.

2nd.—The Primitive Methodists have a new and commodious chapel, large enough to meet the wants of the district. The property is worth £300, and is entirely free from debt. On the other hand, the Wesleyans have only a low, dingy, and uncomfortable room filled with loose forms for sitting accommodation.

3.—A few years ago the Primitive Methodists retired from Roughside and Edmondbyers in favour of the Wesleyans, owing to the smallness of the population, and the Wesleyans having more convenient places of worship.

4th.—The Primitives have been repeatedly asked during the past year to re-commence services at Edmondbyers, but have hitherto declined doing so, in order to place no stumbling block in the way of a union at Ramshaw.

I understand several ministers have expressed themselves favourable to the project. Could not the six ministers of the two circuits hold a friendly conference, and settle the question? Trusting the subject will be well ventilated in these columns, I am, &c.,

ANTI-SECTARIAN.

Ramshaw, Blanchland, Jan. 20th, 1886.

REV J. P. DE PLEDGE AND THE LIBERAL COUNCIL.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I was somewhat surprised, not to say amused, to read in your issue of the 8th inst., the report of a speech made by the Rev J. P. De Pledge, at Satley, in connection with the meeting of Liberals (?) on the 6th inst., in which he appears to have severely commented on the "indiscreet action" of the respected President of the Liberal Council for the Division, Mr W. Jenkins, J.P.

When a gentleman of Mr De Pledge's position can descend to such twaddling feebleness as to accuse Mr Jenkins of "breaking the rules of the Association," that action is self-evidently bereft of any logical defence or even of plausible apology. Mr Jenkins's action was not "indiscreet;" he did not break the rules of the Association. It is easy enough to say so by those who pesist in misconstruing English words in defiance of English syntax. What are the facts? In the first place, the alleged indiscretion of Mr Jenkins can only refer to his having, on finding the almost unanimous desire of the members of the Council to be—at the meeting where the selection had to be made, as to whether the Hon. Hedworth Lambton or Mr Atherley-Jones should be the chosen candidate of the "Liberal" party—that each polling district in the Division should be *fully* represented, so far as voting power went, he, although it would evidently operate against his own personal choice and feelings, yielded to the decision of the majority, and accepted the inevitable.

Now, sir, I would ask your readers to look at the action of the reverend gentleman, and in doing so I feel confident that they will declare that it compares most unfavourable with that of Mr Jenkins. When he (Mr De Pledge) found that the man of his choice was rejected, he at once withdrew from the Association, and during the whole of the ultimate campaign against the natural opponents of Liberalism, he was never heard of, and, in all probability would never have been thought of, had he not brought himself into prominence by his recent vituperation.

As to the alleged disaffection of many old Liberals, I am persuaded it exists only in Mr De Pledge's own imagination, as anyone conversant with the politics of the electors of this Division may see, on weighing the results of the late election. The Liberal candidate, in face of the most strenuous efforts of the Tory party, and the tremendous emphasis with which the cry of "the Church in danger" was raised, and last, but not least, the support of the Irish party, Mr Atherley-Jones (the selected of the Council) carried the day, with a splendid majority of 1996.

The question of Mr Jenkins's so-called penitential speech was certain to be made the most of by the gentlemen in Mr De Pledge's calling, to say nothing about the misrepresentation of certain Tory journals. I would, however, just like to point out to Mr De Pledge that it was quite in keeping with Mr Jenkins's action from the very first. On the first occasion of Mr Atherley-Jones addressing the electors, in the New Town Hall, Consett, so far back as the 20th August, Mr Jenkins (from the chair) announced that he did not agree with the candidate's opinions on all subjects, and more particularly mentioned the question of Church Disestablishment; in fact, he dwelt so lengthily on this subject—perhaps thinking he might succeed in converting the candidate—that the more advanced Liberals became impatient, and he had to curtail his remarks. It is certainly, Mr Editor, very hard, after this, that he should be brought to book by one of the very persons whose cause he was championing. If Mr De Pledge had taken to heart the sensible counsel and example of Mr Jenkins, and had accepted the inevitable, whether he liked it or not, he would have been very much more esteemed by the electors than he is.

With respect to the absolute power of a body of persons—selected for the purpose by the Liberals of the Division—to choose a candidate, I, as a Radical, would certainly much rather have it done this way than that some gentleman, say, Mr De Pledge, should invite some person to come forward, and then perhaps some other prominent gentlemen invite another, and the result be that two or more candidates would be in the field, and in the end a Tory gain the seat. When Mr De Pledge became a member of the Liberal Council, he ought to have known that the choice of a candidate was a prerogative which centred in that Council, and had he been an honest politician and a true Liberal, he would have accepted its mandate. They are no real friends of Liberalism who seek to treat great county constituencies as private preserves. But surely those who pretend to fulfil the high and responsible position of leaders should forward, and not bar, the organisation of the Liberal party. The masses are part and parcel of that party. They will be represented in the organisation in direct proportion to their numbers. If they are dominant in the electorate, they will be dominant in the association. Every Liberal should deem it his duty to take his part in the affairs of his Division. Every man who has worked for the old may find a place in the new organisation, and may animate his energies by the cheerful certainty that the main results of the change will be the increased influence of the counties in Parliament, and additional impetus to the forces that make for progress.

I, for my part, have no fear that abuse such as that which flowed so eloquently from the Satley vicar will mislead the electors of North-West Durham. They are made of better stuff than to be beguiled either by "nonsense or stilts," or by a "calumnious way of speech." The Rev J. P. De Pledge is not the man to lead the sturdy Liberalism of West Durham. In Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones the electors have a member who will help forward the cause of just and needful reforms; who sits on the Liberal side of the House, and will vote for Liberal legislation.

As regards there being too many lawyers in Parliament, that is a matter of opinion, and if my opinion must be given, it is that there are too many of the same cloth as Mr De Pledge in a higher House.

In conclusion, I would ask Mr De Pledge (with a copy of the rules of the Association before me) if the Satley Polling District is entitled to *four* representatives, which number were, I observe from the report in your paper, appointed under his presidency? I was under the impression that each polling district was entitled to one representative for every 100 voters on the register for such district or fraction of 100 above 50. The registered number for Satley is, I suppose, 79.—I am, &c.,

MARK NOBLE.

Blackhill.

BLACKHILL MISSION BAND.

On Monday last, the bandsmen connected with the above mission, together with a few friends, spent a very pleasing and instructive evening in Mission Room, at the invitation of the Messrs Jas. and Wm. Pallisers, of Blackhill. After a splendid supper, very generously given by the two abovenamed gentlemen, a social meeting was held, ably presided over by Mr A. E. Turner, who, in his opening remarks, briefly referred to the great work which had been accomplished in the neighbourhood since the advent of the Misses Watson and Wilson, evangelists, some fifteen months ago. He was glad to see such a good band had been formed and kept together for mission work amongst the masses. The results were truly amazing, and with them, as president of the mission, he was highly pleased. He also thanked the Messrs Palliser for the "feed" which they had provided.

Mr JAS. PALLISER, in responding, stated that it afforded him great pleasure to entertain the friends, and he trusted that by consecration to the service of God, and endeavouring to become perfect as musicians, and at the same time seeking the spiritual good of the masses, greater results would follow.

Mr WM. PALLISER expressed the great pleasure he experienced in the band, and was only too glad to do his part towards providing the supper given.

Rev E. W. JENKINS (Baptist) strongly urged each bandsman to be united in using their musical ability to the glory of God, and being happy themselves endeavour to bring happiness to others.

Mr NOBLE remarked that if people with strange notions of religion looked in upon the gathering they would think that their professions were not productive of melancholy, but true enjoyment, and advised them to go a pleasant way to a pleasant place.

Short and pithy addresses were also given by Messrs GREENWOOD, SHOTTON, STELLING, and others, after which hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Chairman, the Messrs Palliser, and all who had assisted to make the meeting so enjoyable.

THROAT IRRITATION AND COUGH.—Soreness and dryness tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d. tins, 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London." Dr. George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent." While Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease."

LANCHESTER RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

This body met at Lanchester on Thursday se'nnight, under the chairmanship of Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. The meeting was attended by Messrs W. H. Hedley, T. Siddell, W. Rutherford, Wm. Logan, J. Wilkinson, T. Taylor Smith, J. Lax, W. Cumming, the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson), and the inspector (Mr J. W. Rounthwaite).

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr Rounthwaite) submitted the following report:—

To the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—In compliance with your instructions, I made a special inspection of the village of Langley Park on the 7th inst., and served a number of notices on the next day for the abatement of the ordinary recurring nuisances—such as overflowing ashpits, &c. In two cases there is want of proper drains and structural conveniences (the latter has before had the owner's attention called to it), and at another property there is a depth of three inches of stagnant and dirty water in the cellar. The bulk of the sewers at Langley Park were not put in by the Authority, and they are not provided with manholes and lampholes, therefore it is not possible, without opening up the ground and breaking into the pipes, to ascertain whether they are clean, free from sediment, and running rightly. There are two main groups of sewers, one serving the north side of the vicarage (the Consett Company's houses) and the western part of Quebec Street, and the other draining the south side and the eastern half of Quebec Street. The provision of proper manholes, &c., on these sewers would not only give ventilation, but would also provide openings for flushing and cleansing, when necessary, and for periodical inspection—without them nothing can be said as to the state of the pipes. I estimate the cost of three manholes and five lampholes on the first or Consett group of sewers at £30; and of four manholes and four lampholes on the second or south side group at £34.

The condition of the conveniences to Eltringham's Houses, Colliery Dykes, Dipton, is such as to constitute a nuisance—they are defective and dilapidated, and ought to be re-constructed on the improved model.

With respect to Carr Mires Quarry at Catchgate, I have seen two gentlemen—colliery managers—who have undertaken to deposit what ballast and rubbish they may have to dispose of in the bottom of the excavation, so as to reduce the depth of the water. Also, in accordance with your instructions at last meeting, I have had the outlet drain at the low end of the quarry opened up in a number of places. It is of very irregular construction, being partly a rough stone drain and partly of 12 in. and 9 in. piping; and is also choked up for a great number of yards from the quarry downwards. This being so, I have delayed doing more until you have had an opportunity of further considering the matter. The cost of properly clearing out the existing defective drain and pipes would be £8 or £10, and the cost of laying a new 15 in. pipe the whole length would probably come to £25.

Plan and specification are submitted herewith for The Nook branch of the Lanchester sewer, survey for and preparation of which have been completed during the month in accordance with your instructions at last meeting. It would save time if you could arrange to accept a tender at an adjourned meeting on the 28th inst.

A meeting of sub-committee was held at Quebec and Esh on the 22nd ult. with respect to the sewerage works required at these places. It was decided to recommend that an outlet sewer be put in from Marley's Buildings through the yard of the school opposite, and discharging on the field below. Rev Mr Wesley, owner of the field in question, agreed to this proposal. Also agreed that the sewerage of the village of Esh should be gone on with in accordance with the plans already completed.

Nuisance notices served during the month	23
Letters written with respect to nuisances, &c.	38
Plan approval notices sent out	6
Plans received and examined	0
Habitation certificates issued	1
Villages and hamlets inspected	17

The following new buildings are completed, or almost completed, and fit for habitation, and certificates are required for the same:—

561.—Blaydon District Industrial and Provident Society, six houses, Burnopfield.
604.—Messrs Hall Bros., one house, Holmside.
607.—R. Richardson, double tenemented house, Hill Top, Dipton.
622.—William Plender, additions to house, Annfield Plain.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
J. WM. ROUNTHWAITE.

Lanchester, 14th January, 1886.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

14th January, 1886.

Your Committee recommend that the plan and specification for The Nook branch of the Lanchester sewer be approved, and that the Surveyor be empowered to obtain tenders for the same by private invitation—the small extent of the work not justifying the cost of public advertisement. Tenders to be considered on the 28th inst.

THE DANGEROUS QUARRY AT CATCHGATE.

After considerable discussion, the Surveyor was instructed to arrange if possible for the re-laying of the outlet pipe from the quarry at Catchgate, but not to execute any works of fencing.

BRANCH SEWER AT LANCHESTER.

Plans and specification for branch sewer at Lanchester were approved, and tenders ordered to be obtained for the same before the 28th inst.

THE SEWERAGE OF CRAGHEAD AND WAGTAIL.

A Committee, to which Mr T. Taylor Smith was added, in place of Mr Johnson, of Stanley (who is about to leave the district), was instructed to meet the Committee of Chester-le-Street Rural Sanitary Authority respecting the proposed joint arrangement for the sewerage of Craghead and Wagtail Cottages.

SEWERAGE EXTENSION.

The Surveyor was instructed to insert manholes and ventilating shafts on the various sewers at Langley Park, and to advance the sewerage works at Esh and Quebec.

The seal of the Board was affixed to the contract of Mr Geo. Robson, Newcastle, for the drainage of Burnopfield.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

The Medical Officers submitted the following reports:—

To the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.
Medomsley District.

GENTLEMEN,—By the returns for the quarter ending December last, 47 births and 27 deaths were registered, against 62 births and 19 deaths for the previous quarter ending September. Of these 27 deaths, 1 was from diphtheria; 1 from croup; 1 from scarlatina; 1 from measles; 4 from consumption; the other causes of death were from non-contagious disease.

Considering the time of year, the district is in a very healthy condition, as no fresh cases of febrile disease have come under my notice during the month.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

January 13th, 1886. W. T. BOLTON.

To the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.
Eastern District.

GENTLEMEN,—Since my last report, the health of the district, as regards zymotic diseases, has considerably improved.

Measles and whooping cough, which commenced simultaneously, are both passing off rapidly. Thirteen cases of the former and 12 of the latter are all that have been notified to me during the month.

Isolated cases of scarlatina are still appearing, 9 cases having occurred in the Tanfield township, and 5 in the Collierley. The type is, on the whole, mild; and at present shows no tendency to develop into an epidemic.

The mortality for the month is rather below the average. Twenty-four deaths were registered, being equal to an annual ratio of 17 per 1,000. Zymotic diseases caused 5 deaths—viz: Whooping cough, 3; scarlatina, 1; and measles, 1.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

T. BENSON, Medical Officer.

January 12th, 1886.

To the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.
Lanchester District.

MR CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,—During the last four weeks there have been in this district the following fresh cases of catching diseases:—1 case of scarlet fever at Quebec; 1 case of scarlet fever and 3 of chicken-pox at Newhouse Cottages; 3 cases of chicken-pox at Hamsterley Colliery; and 4 cases of scarlet fever at Satley.—I am, Mr Chairman and gentlemen, your obedient servant,

January 14th, 1886. JOHN WILSON.

These reports were adopted as satisfactory, and the Authority immediately afterwards arose.

"RUPTURES."—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices, to J. WHITE AND CO. (Limited), Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell an IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have not any Agents.

THE LOCK-OUT AT SOUTH MEDOMSLEY.

DISORDERLY PROCEEDINGS.

A somewhat disorderly affair took place, in connection with the dispute at South Medomsley Colliery, last Friday night. Soon after darkness set in, a "blackleg" from the neighbourhood of Gateshead arrived at Dipton, for the purpose of starting work at the pit. He brought his furniture with him, and being but newly married, his effects were apparently new. The goods and chattels were conveyed on a waggon, but were intercepted by a number of the strike hands on reaching one of the rows of houses at High Stables, where the "blackleg" proposed to take possession of a house vacated by the evicted men. A lively demonstration resulted. After the cart had been stopped, an attempt was made to seize the the furniture, one man endeavouring to cut a rope securing the goods. His object was, however, frustrated by the colliery owners' special constable, P.C. Johnson, who has only been stationed in the village since the lock-out commenced. An attack was therefore made upon the officer, who was roughly jostled into a corner, and pelted with stones. His helmet was chiefly the butt of the missiles, and he luckily escaped without injury. Next, an effort was made to destroy the furniture by setting fire to some straw scattered at the bottom of the cart. The straw was ignited, but the policeman managed to extinguish the flames almost instantly. The men next forcibly seized the furniture, and carried it to a house rented by them; and up to Saturday afternoon the effects had not been delivered up to the rightful owner. The crowd, which ultimately numbered about 1,000 persons, then amused themselves with other diversions. A cart or stall, belonging to a butcher named Kay, residing in the village of Leadgate, was overturned, the reason given being that Kay's son had worked as a "blackleg;" also that the man himself acted as a "candyman," but this, of course, was incorrect. Fortunately, at this juncture, Sergt. Thornton and other constables arrived on the spot; and the sergeant, being well known to the whole of the men, persuaded them to disperse quietly. Except for this circumstance, the lock-out men have behaved most excellently so far; but the fact of a "blackleg" coming to take possession of one of their houses seems to have been very aggravating to them.

Three of the five "blacklegs" who came to the colliery on Thursday week were employed in the drift on Friday and Saturday, and further importations were expected to arrive so as to start work on Monday. The other two men, who were ascertained to be imposters from Crook—who desired to levy "blackmail" on the Unionists to induce them not to commence work—have left the neighbourhood.

On Saturday afternoon, Mr John Wilson, M.P., the financial agent, attended at the Black Bull Inn, Dipton, the head-quarters of the local Miners' Lodge, and paid to the locked-out unionists, who number between 150 and 200 men and youths, their fortnightly allowance from the funds of the Durham Miners' Association. The adults received £1 and the lads 10s each. These grants, together with the monetary assistance which, it is anticipated, will flow in from all sources, will enable both unionists and the men not identified with the Union to live pretty comfortably with their families. The same afternoon and evening the men also paraded the colliery villages of White-le-Head, Tanfield, Catchgate, &c., the Dipton Brass Band accompanying the procession, which was headed by a person bearing a signboard with the inscription respecting "Posstick and his Consett candymen" figuring prominently thereon. The people cheered *en route*, and a vast concourse, despite the bitterly cold wintry weather, followed the procession.

With reference to the alleged disturbances at the colliery on Friday night, the miners' officials at Durham state that they are totally ignorant of anything like rioting having taken place. From the statement of two of the men now locked out, which was given to the Federation Board on Friday, it appears that on the previous night nine strangers had been brought with their families and effects to the colliery. They were at once interviewed by the union men, to whom they stated that they had been engaged under false representation. Six of the men at once declared their intention of not commencing work. There was, however, not the slightest show of hostility made to the new arrivals, nor was there any approach to a collison between the men on strike and the police or the colliery officials. It has also been rumoured that the police force in the neighbourhood had been increased, but beyond two policemen having been withdrawn and other two having been substituted in their places, no alteration in the police arrangements have been made. It was reported on Saturday afternoon, however, that the Chief Constable of Durham (Lieut.-Col. White) had deemed it necessary to strengthen the police force in the district, and that an addition to the force located in South Medomsley and within easy hail of that place would take place on Satuday night, and would remain located there for the present at least.

CIRCULAR FROM THE FEDERATION BOARD.

A meeting of the Federation Board was held in the Miners' Hall, Durham, on Friday, and the following telegram was sent to the colliery manager, Mr Tyzack:—"Is there any possibility of a settlement in your dispute without carrying hostilities further? Federation Board now waiting reply. Wire at once.—PATTERSON." No reply being received, the Federation Board then issued on Saturday morning a circular setting forth the facts connected with the dispute, and appealing to all workmen to stand by the men of South Medomsley. The circular also suggests that the dispute be referred to the arbitration of independent men. Scarcely had the circular been issued when the following telegram was received from Mr Tyzack: — "South Medomsley Colliery. To Patterson, miners' agent, Durham. Not at home yesterday. I have no further instructions from owners with regard to this colliery.—TYZACK."

At a meeting of the Durham Federation Board, held on Saturday morning at the Miners' Hall, Durham, the secretary (Mr W. H. Patterson) reported that the position of affairs at South Medomsley Colliery had not undergone the favourable change the Board hoped for. He had wired to Mr Tyzack, the manager, asking if there was any possibility of a settlement being arrived at, but no reply had yet been received. Up to that moment a large number of men and their families had been evicted from their homes during the week, and but for the fact that the houses in the neighbouring villages had been secured to shelter them, much suffering might have ensued.

ARRIVAL OF ADDITIONAL "BLACKLEGS."

Threer or four more loads of furniture belonging to "blacklegs" arrived at South Medomsley Colliery during Monday, and although much excitement prevailed in the neighbourhood, and a large number of men flocked around, no serious affray arose. About a dozen policemen (including Supt. Oliver, of Consett) were present, and maintained good order, although occasionally the aspect of affairs appeared to be threatening. There was a slight skirmish when the police escorted four "blacklegs" to work at the colliery at 5 p.m., but the men did nothing more beyond giving vent orally to their feelings. On Monday night the place was exceedingly quiet, only small knots of men being gathered here and there. A report was current in Consett, that James Frosdick, one of the candymen, had been threatened on Saturday night, and narrowly escaped rough usage; but he was attending to his duties as usual on Monday.

At a special meeting of the Brancepeth No. 2 Lodge of the Durham Miners Association, to take into consideration the lock-out at South Medomsley Colliery, the following resolution was adopted:—

That we, the members of the above lodge, beg to record our sympathy with the South Medomsley men; also to put on record our protest against such injustice as is wanted to be perpetrated by the manager at that colliery; also that we send them the sum of £5, and £1 per fortnight as long as the strike continues.

The delegate, in supporting the resolution, urged not only the men of that lodge, but all the miners in the county of Durham, to support the Medomsley men in their struggle.

At a meeting of the Pontop and Jarrow Federation Board, held at Kibblesworth on Saturday, the following motion was passed:—

That we, the delegates here assembled, deeply regret the present lock-out at South Medomsley Colliery, and hereby express our sympathy with our fellow-workmen in their struggle against oppression, who, by an act of the greatest tyranny on the part of the manager, are forced to endure the severest hardships by being ejected from their houses in this inclement weather. At the same time, we strongly condemn the manager for such inhuman and reprehensible conduct and trust that the unhappy conflict may speedily be brought to a successful termination.

A telegram was received on Tuesday, by the officials of the Durham Miners' Association, from the men of South Medomsley, stating that there were now only five "blacklegs" working at the colliery. It was expected that the whole of these, on being thoroughly informed of the cause of the dispute, would cease work.

A crowded meeting of miners was held on Tuesday night at Hamsteels Colliery in support of the men of South Medomsley. Messrs Patterson, Lee, and Park, of the Durham Miners' Association, addressed the meeting, which expressed great sympathy with the men locked out. It was agreed to support them as far as they possibly could. The meeting also urged those men at the colliery who were non-unionists to join the union at once.

Some of the excitement manifested in the Dipton dispute a few days ago appears to have subsided, though the dispute is, of course, the one topic of conversation in that neighbourhood. It also creates considerable attention throughout the county of Durham. Within the past day or two more non-unionists have been set to work, and have shown no disposition, as has been erroneously stated, to cease their new employment. These men are working double shifts, and on Wednesday forenoon, about eleven o'clock, a crowd of men and boys assembled in the vicinity of the colliery to witness those who had been engaged during the night leave the mine. Three of the men made their appearance shortly after that hour, their journey from the pit heap being the signal for a good deal of banter, which increased as they got on to the turnpike road. The men walk together, and were followed by two policemen as an escort. As the grimy trio made their way in the centre of the road towards the village, they were severely chaffed, and the procession speedily brought more sightseers and few extra tormentors to the spot. There was a fair assembly at the row ends as the colliery cottages were reached, and the demonstration against the "blacklegs" was here increased by some women. All sorts of opprobrious remarks were levelled at the unfortunate three, and the driver of a passing vehicle was kindly invited to "run over them," an invitation he declined with a comical shake of the head. At the end of the pit row, where the men have been supplied with houses, two policemen were stationed; and as the non-unionists turned in they were saluted with a parting tirade of satirical howls. Other two men, who, with the three that had preceded them, formed the night-shift staff, were afterwards accompanied by two policemen to the cottages, and they had to undergo the same ordeal as their companions. On the whole, the men bore the banter well. They never attempted to reply, simply contenting themselves with smoking their pipes and with passing a few remarks one to the other. The crowd, beyond indulging in the running chaff described, was otherwise well conducted. No attempt whatever was made to interfere with the men, the services of the police were not once called into requisition, and the proceedings throughout were simply of a humourous kind. It was a somewhat humiliating sight, however, to behold working men accompanied like culprits by policemen along the roads, and though the men put the best face possible on the matter the proceedings must to them have been of rather a painful kind. Fortunately it is a scene witnessed but rarely. In the afternoon, the Dipton Brass Band paraded the various parts of the district, accompanied by a large crowd, but though there was a little hooting and hissing at some parts of the route no disturbance took place.

On Tuesday evening formal notices to quit were given to those late workmen of the company who are still living in the colliery houses, and these notices will expire in seven days. In the meanwhile, the dispute has considerably curtailed working operations at the pit, for only something like fifteen hewers are engaged, and the output of so small a body of men is, of course, very limited. More men, however, it is stated, are likely to arrive in a few days, in which case the operations at the colliery may be expected to be largely increased. The late workmen of the company, many of whom have been ejected from their houses, view as a body with a good deal of indifference the probable increase of non-unionists. They are firm in the belief that their case is a good one. They believe that the necessary support will for a long time be forthcoming in their behalf, and they express confidence that in the end the owners, in their own interest, will withdraw what the men believe to be the unjust demand that has been made. The only inconvenience that some persons, indeed, appear to have experienced from the dispute is a scarcity of the coal supply; and to meet the demand created, most of the loose coals that were lying in the waggonways a few days ago have been scraped together and removed. By the tradesmen of the district the dispute is, of course, regarded with regret; for its continuance will, for the time being at least, mean a decrease in the spending power of the community. In the colliery villages adjoining Medomsley, the action of the miners is hailed with satisfaction, and they have unmistakably the best wishes of their fellow-workmen in the struggle.

One of the strike hands has been served with a summons for intimidating the "blacklegs;" and a meeting of the men has been held to consider the matter. A number of the miners residing in the colliery houses, who have been paying their rents regularly since the dispute originated, and consequently could not be legally evicted on Wednesday week, have each received fourteen days' notice to quit their dwellings. Only a few loads of furniture have arrived at High Stables since Monday. On Wednesday afternoon the locked-out men marched through Leadgate and Consett. The procession, which was an exceedingly large one, was accompanied by part of the Dipton Brass Band and the Leadgate Saxhorn Band, and was headed by a person carrying the board bearing the inscription referring to the Consett "candymen." The men were gratuitously supplied with drink at three or four public-houses in Consett.

There was no material change in the aspect of affairs at the colliery yesterday (Thursday) morning. On the arrival of the miners from Consett late on Wednesday night, they paraded up and down the rows of houses inhabited by the "blacklegs," in an excited condition; but eventually they accepted the advice of the police and dispersed quietly to their homes.

The *Newcastle Journal* comments:—"It is to be hoped that some effective efforts may be made to put an end to the unhappy dispute at South Medomsley. The Union men are sufficiently in funds to protract it for a considerable time, as they receive a sum adequate to maintain their wives and families in comfort. Of the men out of work on account of the strike, however, one hundred do not belong to the Union. They will be impatient of idleness, which means starvation, and may refuse to be coerced by others who have not the same reason for desiring a speedy resumption of labour. Sympathy is naturally felt for the men on strike; but they will not improve their case by any further resort to violence such as occurred on Friday."

The following letters have been published respecting the South Medomsley dispute:—

SIR,—It having came to our knowledge that some unprincipled persons are collecting money from the public, pretending it is on behalf of the South Medomsley men now locked out, we ask for a small space in your valuable paper to warn the public against such impostors in future, as the only men we have had collecting any money were eight men on Monday, January 11th, just around the district, and we do not intend in future to have any travelling collectors going about.

GEORGE SPEEDING, Secretary.

SIR,—In order that the public may not be led astray by false reports of the earnings of the hewers of South Medomsley Colliery, I beg to place before you the following figures taken from the last pay that was worked at this colliery. These figures can be verified by the colliery pay books, and can be seen at the colliery.

Total shifts worked, 604; total money, £160 5s 5d—4s 7·42d per shift, being 5 per cent. above the county average.

I may also add that on account of being short of orders during this pay, the pit worked short time, this being much against the hewers' earnings.—Yours, &c.,

N. TYZACK, Manager.

January 18th, 1886.

SOUTH MEDOMSLEY DISPUTE.

SIR,—Will you do me the honour to publish the following in your most valuable paper, as I observe the manager of the above colliery has been making an attempt to mislead the public mind from the true facts relating to his so-called last pay, or the wages made by the hewers during the last fortnight of their engagement? I may here say that it fell to my unpleasant duty to meet Mr Tyzack with the men, and discuss this matter with him at the outset before the men's notices were expired. The following is a copy of the figures submitted by the men, and never challenged nor in any way objected to by Mr Tyzack. I give the averages of eight flats, each representing the last three pays prior to the expiration of the notices, viz:—Rise flat, 4s 6½d; 3rd do. 4s 1d; north do., 3s 9½d; north-east, 4s; third west, 4s 4½d; underline, 4s 3½d; top of bank, 4s 0½d; south side, 4s 7½d; thus giving a gross average of 4s 2½d, or equal to six per cent. below the county average; from which figures he asked other ten per cent. reduction. The above are the true figures, before there is any deduction for powder or any other material used. If Mr Tyzack has such a good case as he would fain have the public believe, why not submit the whole matter to arbitration, and thereby get a settlement at once by an unconcerned party?

In justice to South Medomsley men and the public, I crave the publication of the above.—I am, &c.

JAMES TERRELL.

Philadelphia, *via* Fence Houses,
January 20th, 1886.

SIR,—Will you allow me to express my opinion on the conduct of the manager at South Medomsley Colliery towards his workmen?

True liberty only exists where masters and men cheerfully and good-humouredly carry out a well-defined and understood arrangement. Wrongly-informed persons ask what grievous wrongs have the men suffered at the hands of Mr Tyzack. He has declared his determination to rivet for ever the chains of slavery on the back of his workmen. Prior to Mr Tyzack coming to Medomsley Colliery, peace and good will prevailed between masters and men. From the first month Mr Tyzack put in his appearance at Medomsley Colliery up to the present day, he has been conspicuous by being characterised with an unhappy combination of unreasonable complaints, which were preposterous in the extreme. In my opinion the cause that has led to the unnecessary trouble and annoyance is the result of Mr Tyzack's youthfulness and inexperience as a mining engineer. It would have been much better if Mr Tyzack had a little experience of the wants and requirements of a hard-working man. Mr Tyzack's action all along has been of a mischievous and pernicious character. He is a contradictious, petulant, and ill-mannered man as regards his workmen. Among the many acts which will be remembered to his discredit must be the cruel, heartless evictions which took place at South Medomsley. I think I have said sufficient to the workmen to prove that those brave-hearted men that are wishful to resist tyranny should be supported. I hope that my remarks may assist in clearing up any misconception, and that they will clearly prove the necessity of organisation and the advantages to be obtained by all workmen joining their respective societies. I sincerely thank the executive committees of the various societies, and also the Federation Board, for exercising a watchful care in all matters affecting the interests of the workmen generally, for giving their valuable assistance and advice in times of difficulty. Thanks for your past favour, and I sincerely offer an apology for my long epistle.—I am, &c.,

PATRICK CARLING.

Lintz Green Colliery.

SIR,—As a resident in the neighbourhood of South Medomsley, I would like to offer a few remarks to the general public on the above subject.

It is now 34 years since I commenced as a toiler in the mines, and over 20 years since I first began to take an interest in trades unions, and in all that time I can safely say a worse case has not come under my notice than the above.

A lock-out with all its attendant miseries, so unprovoked by the workmen, and by the masters so uncalled for, so senseless, unjust, and bitter as this which culminated this week in pitching a number of poor harmless people to the door in this inclement season of the year, whose only fault is that they will not allow themselves to be squeezed out of existence by the hard and relentless hand of tyranny. So far the men have acted in the most reasonable manner, and have exhausted every conceivable means of a legitimate character to prevent the dispute, and afterwards to bring about an amicable settlement. But hitherto their appeals, so frequent, so reasonable and just, seem to have fallen upon deaf ears. But, with an organisation so powerful as the Durham Miners' Association supporting them, they are in a position to wait until their employers will listen to their cry for justice. I am glad that, in the face of all the provocation these men have received, they have hitherto conducted themselves in the most peaceful manner. Feeling strong in the might of right, they can afford to wait the issue of the struggle without having recourse to violence, even when they have been tempted to it by the conduct of those from whom it might be the least expected; but I trust they will receive protection in a court of law from the frequent annoyances and insults they have hitherto been compelled to endure.

Now, sir, we appeal to the public in this case, feeling confident that the grand sense of moral right has not yet been altogether extinguished in the human heart. Public opinion is the highest tribunal to which the poor, oppressed, honest man can appeal in his distress; and we ask the public to place upon the actions of the employers in this case the indelible stigma of their abhorrence.

By inserting the above you will oblige, yours, &c.

Leadgate, Jan. 16th, 1885. D. REED.

THE IRISH PARTY AND THE CONSETT CANDYMEN.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Allow me to correct an error in your issue of Friday last as to the League of the Cross. I may inform you, Mr Editor, that the above league is entirely religious and non-political, and, as such, do not take any act or part in these matters. Hoping this will settle the above question for the future.—I am, yours, &c.,

JAS. MCPHILIPS, Secretary.

33, West Row, Blackhill.

[It was the Irish National League, and not the League of the Cross, that "boycotted" the Consett "candymen."—*Ed. C.G.*]

MR DODDS, M.P., AND THE EVICTIONS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—My attention has been called to a paragraph which has appeared in several local papers, including, I believe, your own, viz:—

"The work of evicting the locked-out miners at the South Medomsley Colliery was unexpectedly suspended on Thursday. The reason assigned for this is that Mr W. Crawford, M.P., has successfully appealed on behalf of the men to Mr Joseph Dodds, M.P., one of the owners of the colliery, who, it is understood, despatched a telegram on Wednesday night, ordering further ejectments to cease for the present."

Will you do me the justice to say that I am not, and never was, one of the owners of the colliery, nor have I ever been in any way connected with its management.

As regards the evictions, which I deeply regret, I never heard of them until Wednesday last, on which day Mr Crawford, M.P., and Mr John Wilson, M.P., spoke to me respecting them in the House of Commons.

I shall feel obliged by your inserting this letter in your next publication.—Yours, &c.,

Stockton-on-Tees, Jan. 16th, 1886. JOS. DODDS.

"BUCHU-PABIA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. At Chemists. F. NEWBERY and SONS, Agents, 1 King Edward Street, London.

HYMNS for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c., printed on the shortest notice, and at the *cheapest* rate, by ROBERT JACKSON, Consett.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fever, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever, of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d and 2s. 9d Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester

Original Poetry.

THE VOICE OF THE CHURCH-GOING BELL.

Passing by one of our Churches not a hundred miles from Leadgate, I was *not a little surprised* to hear the bell ring out in rather lamentable tones the following:

My name is Bell,
In Church steeple I dwell,
My office is to tell
The time to come to Church.
Dwelling thus high,
Between earth and sky,
I can easily spy
Who cometh late to Church.

'Tis not my intention
Any names for to mention,
I just seek the prevention
Of coming late to Church.
Who you may be,
That's nothing to me,
If I only can see
You in time for Church.

So, Mr Churchwarden,
And plain Marky Farden,
Aye, and Miss Dolly Varden,
Please to come in time;
Let my efforts in ringing
Ever succeed in bringing
You in time for the singing,
With which the service begins.

It's really provoking—
Mind I'm not joking—
But *mean* what I've spoken!
So please come in time;
Well, thought I, 'tis very strange
To hear a bell ring out a change
That would most certainly derange
Our Sunday morning's sleeping.

But musing on—well, well, thinks I,
To me the words do not apply,
For in bed I do not lie—
But what I'm there in time;
So just to give a gentle hint,
I send you what it said to print
For those to read for whom 'twas "mint,"
And I will always chime.

Leadgate, Jan., 1885. OBSERVER.

PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY IN THE DEARNESS VALLEY.

The proposal to connect Crook and district with the Dearness Valley and Durham by railway has been mooted for some time, with the approval of several local engineers and other gentlemen thoroughly well qualified to understand the engineering necessities of the case, the probabilities of traffic, and the general scope and requirements of the undertaking. For the purpose of promoting a memorial to the directors of the Nort-Eastern Railway Company in favour of the proposed passenger railway, a public meeting was held on Thursday se'nnight in the British Schools, Stanley. There was a numerous and spirited meeting.

Mr THOS. DOUGLAS, West Lodge, presided, and explained the object of the meeting. He said that to get to Durham or to any other part from Crook involved both expense and trouble. It had, therefore, been felt desirable, if possible, to connect Crook with Waterhouses. Between that village and Waterhouses there was a gap of some three-and-a-quarter miles, and between that same point and Crook was something over a mile, which, with such a severe and toilsome ascent, as they all knew, was nearly equivalent to two miles. As to population, they had at least 25,175, for whom it was desired to provide access to Durham and the North on the one hand, and to Bishop Auckland and the South on the other, as the case might be. They trusted that in time the Railway Company would give them what they asked for.

Rev J. ROSCAMP moved—"Seeing that Crook and district, comprising a population of over 24,000, are without any direct railway communication with Durham and the North, and that the districts of Stanley, Wooley, Sunniside, Hedley Hill, and Cornsay, with a population of 13,000, are without any railway communication with Crook, Bishop Auckland, and the South, this meeting unanimously urges upon the directors of the North-Eastern Railway Company the advisability of making a new railway from Crook to Waterhouses, by Stanley Engine and Hedley Hill." He (the vicar) felt keenly their isolated position. Whichever direction they went they must walk, and they were not an insignificant population. Durham was a centre of growing interest, and the Railway Company should also remember the farmers, who needed carriage for grain and cattle. If they asked for and worked for a railway he was sure they would get it. (Applause.)

Mr SMITH seconded.

The resolution was carried with acclamation, as was the following:—"Seeing that the immense amount of road traffic which passes from Crook to Stanley, Hedley Hill, and Waterhouses district would at once be transferred to the new railway, and the additional facilities which would be given to so large a population for passenger traffic, this meeting is of opinion, after some considerable investigations, that a substantial profit would be guaranteed to the Company by granting this new railway, and thus taking the place of the present mineral line now in use by the Company." It was also decided to memoralise the directors of the North-Eastern Railway Company at as early a date as possible.

Rev J. ROSCAMP and Mr J. GILL also gave statistics showing the number of people who would be benefitted by more direct communication with Durham. Crook, with a population of about 11,500, is distant ten miles from Durham, which is only reached after one-and-a-quarter hours' travelling *via* Bishop Auckland. Mount Pleasant and Stanley have a population of about 8,710, the nearest station being four miles distant, and the distance to Durham being only seven miles. Hedley Hill and district contain 4,265 people, and are at about an equal disadvantage with the latter place. A population of 24,000 is thus made up in those places, to whom the proposal of some better connection with Durham is a matter of the greatest importance.

A large meeting was held in the Board Schoolroom, Crook, on Monday evening, in support of the movement. The proceedings were of a spirited and enthusiastic character. Mr Jos. Fryer, J.P., presided, and was supported by the leading residents of the district, including Mr T. Douglas, the Vicars of Crook and Stanley, and Messrs J. Gill, M. Taylor, G. Lister, J. Willan, R. S. Fell, W. H. Miller, W. Whitfield, R. Bones, and others.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Mr Chaytor, Witton Castle, who offers the use of his name to any memorial, and from Mr W. Willson, who is prepared to bear a share of any preliminary expenses of this proposal.

The CHAIRMAN said that every new line created trade, and he should be happy to lend what influence he had in the matter. Then, again, they had with them Sir J. W. Pease, M.P., their member—(applause)—and Mr David Dale, J.P., who were also railway directors—(applause)—and there was therefore little doubt that success would ultimately attend their efforts. (Applause.)

Mr DOUGLAS moved a resolution urging upon the directors of the North-Eastern Railway Company the advisability of making a new railway from Crook to Waterhouses by Stanley Engine and Hedley Hill. He referred to the present connection between Dearness Valley and Durham, and between Darlington and Crook, and said all would know the great inconvenience, difficulty, loss of time, and expense in at present reaching the eastern part of the county. He was sure that scheme would have the enthusiastic support of every one in that town; but, at the same time, they must approach the company not only with earnestness, but also with care and discretion. They must be able to convince the directors that the case was a perfectly clear one. With regard to the range of hills between Crook and Waterhouses, they must, of course, be traversed. Tow Law was 1,000 feet above the sea level, but in the proposed scheme, though a hill was to be climbed, the ascent would not be so severe as on the Tow Law line. There was, however, a less distance in which to make a detour up the hill, but he *felt* that the engineering skill of the North-Eastern Company would be quite able to surmount the difficulty. The line, he thought, could pass by a gully or cavity near Billy Row Farm, and after that by a cutting, as at Tow Law, then down on to Stanley Branch and in the direction of Stanley Farm, and on to Waterhouses Railway. He recognised the present serious position of trade, but he could assure them that Crook was by no means a worn-out town. (Cheers.)

Mr J. GILL moved—"That seeing that the road traffic passing from Crook to Stanley, Hedley Hill, and Waterhouses district would be transferred to the new railway, and recognising the additional facilities for passenger traffic, the meeting was of the opinion that a substantial profit would be guaranteed to the company by granting this new connection." He showed that the proposed line would save the railway company, by obviating the necessity for the standing engines, at least £3,000 per annum, and to this they might add at least another £6,000 in traffic. Including the populations of Ushaw, Esh, and Sleetburn, the population directly interested in the proposed line was not less than 40,000.

Mr FELL seconded, and the VICAR of STANLEY, Mr W. WHITFIELD, and Mr BONES supported the resolution.

Rev J. KING (Crook) proposed, and Mr WILLAN seconded:—"That the foregoing resolutions, together with a plan of the scheme, be embodied in a memorial to lay before the directors at as early a date as possible."

All the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

On Thursday week, the fortnightly meeting of the Board was held at Lanchester Workhouse, under the presidency of Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. The Guardians in attendance were the Revs Canon F. Kearney and J. P. De Pledge, J.P., Messrs J. Wilkinson, Wm. Logan, W. H. Hedley, T. Siddell, Thos. Taylor Smith, Geo. Hobson, T. Pringle, J. Lax, Wm. Rutherford, W. Shell, J. A. Curry, Wm. Cumming, and the Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

The principal business before the Board was the consideration of applications for relief.

DURHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL AND PAUPERS.

The following letter was read by the Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson):—

Durham County Hospital,
January 5th, 1886.

DEAR SIR,—I am desired by the Board to express to you their regret that, as the patients recommended by the Board of Guardians, must necessarily be paupers, and so unsuitable for admission to the hospital, they feel bound in the future to accept no subscriptions from Boards of Guardians and that, therefore, they must ask the Guardians of the Lanchester Union to discontinue their kind subscription to the hospital.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

V. K. COOPER, hon. sec.

Mr LOGAN said that the patients sent by the Guardians might be of the poorer class, but he denied that they were paupers.

Mr SIDDELL maintained that if they were sent by the Guardians they must be paupers.

Canon KEARNEY stated that they must necessarily be paupers to begin with, therefore, the Board was asked to withdraw its subscription.

NEW YEAR'S FESTIVITIES.

The Master (Mr W. Brotherhood) reported that on New Year's Day, Mr Edward Taylor Smith, of Colepike, gave the inmates their usual tea; and an expression of thanks was ordered to be forward to that gentlemen for his munificence.

INMATES OF THE WORKHOUSE.

The Master (Mr Brotherhood) reported the No. of inmates of the institution to be as under:—

Week ending Jan. 6th	173
Corresponding week of last year	185
Week ending Jan. 13th	172
Corresponding week of last year	185
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	2
" corresponding fortnight last year	11

There was no further business of importance.

LANCHESTER JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

A monthly meeting of this Board took place on Thursday se'nnight, at the Workhouse Buildings at Lanchester. Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., presided, and the Rev Canon Kearney, George Hobson, W. Logan, W. H. Hedley, J. Wilkinson, J. Lax, and Mr W. H. Ritson (clerk), were in attendance.

THE NEW HOSPITAL NEAR LEADGATE

The subjoined report was read by the Clerk:—

Report of Local Committee as to Hospital near Leadgate.

Your Committee having examined the building on the 11th inst., have to report that they find the building contract work completed, with the exception of a small portion of the painting, the setting of an oven in the kitchen, and the formation of cesspool. This latter has been arranged to be constructed 12 or 14 yards north-west from the position shown for it on plan—so as the ground on that side being higher—to admit of any overflow there may be from the cesspool flowing over and percolating through the soil of part of the space ground within the hospital enclosure.

There is, however, not likely to be much overflow at any time, as all the land and roof drain water is to be taken away by separate pipes.

Your Committee recommend in place of the one large, sloping, and rather shallow open cesspool first arranged for, that there be two of about 6ft. x 4ft. inside, and 2½ft. deep below the pipe, with grating cover on top, and wooden sluice and stop traps to confine the discharge into one of the cesspools when the other requires cleaning out.

Your Committee observe there are no doors to the Ambulance House. In so exposed a situation it appears desirable that these should be provided.

Outside.—The road-making and levelling of ground by separate contract has been hindered by the recent fall of snow, but not much remains to be done.

The cutting and laying of the main drain to carry away the clear water, still awaits the consent of Mrs Gee's trustee to its going across the adjoining field.

Inside.—The contractors' work will probably be practically finished this week, and your Committee thought it advisable to arrange for a woman being employed for about a week, from next Monday, cleaning and keeping up the fires.

At any time after a week or so hence, the furniture need recently for the temporary hospitals, and now stored at Lanchester, might be removed to the Leadgate hospital, and it can then be seen how far this can be utilised there. One ward should, at any rate, be completely fitted up; blind fittings, and blinds should be provided for all the windows.

And it would seem advisable also at once to furnish the kitchen, scullery, and one bedroom of the house, suitably for a care-taker.

The next step should then doubtless be the selection of a married couple to go into the house. It is for the Board to decide what should be done about this, but in the partial discussion the Committee have had, they are agreed that—(1.) it is probably feasible to meet with a suitable pair, who in times when the hospital is not in use, would at little or no cost to the Board act as care-takers for the sake of living rent free and having the use of the spare ground for gardening.

(2.) That it is highly desirable the woman should be capable of acting as one of the nurses when patients are in the hospital.

It may be well to point out generally that of the matters remarked on in this report—those as to position and shape of cesspools, and provision of doors to the Ambulance House are for the architect; the rest for the consideration of the Board.

For the local Committee,
W. H. HEDLEY.

January 14th, 1886.

On the motion of Mr LOGAN, seconded by Mr WILKINSON, the portion of the report relating to the door to the Ambulance House was adopted, Mr HEDLEY remarking that it was strange that such an important matter should have been overlooked.

The other portion of the report was referred to the architect to attend to.

Mr HEDLEY stated that the Committee had already in view a woman whom they thought suitable and competent to undertake the duties of cleaning the premises.

FURNISHING THE HOSPITAL.

A letter was read from Mr J. W. Davison, furniture dealer, Consett, enquiring if it was the intention of the Board to furnish the hospital privately or by open contract.

The CHAIRMAN explained that there was a quantity of furniture stored in the Workhouse belonging the Hospital Board, quite sufficient to furnish the buildings, and after the goods had been taken to the Hospital, they would be able to judge what further articles were requisite.

There was no further business.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per Bottle. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London.

THE "NEW" PHRENOLOGY.

Mr Nicholas Morgan, in his review of Mr Tate's lecture on "The New Phrenology" at Dipton, treated that gentlemen with due courtesy; and handled the principles he had enunciated in a masterly way. There was no attempt to gain an advantage over Mr Tate in his absence. Mr Morgan evidently aimed at truth. He rehearsed the principles laid down by Mr Tate, and simplified them so as to be easily understood by the whole of the audience. He lucidly described the human brain, the spinal cord, and the nervous system and its functions.

The brain and spinal cord, said he, are the two great centres of the nervous system; and that each of them consists of several parts. They receive all impressions made on the external senses and the surface of the body; and excepting the organic functions—such as digestion, the circulatian of the blood, breathing, &c., they originate all the movements of the body. For example: he touched the back of his left hand with the right, and remarked, I feel this touch, that is, I am conscious of the impression, and the mind is alive to the fact, and watchful respecting what may follow. Now, if the part touched had been very sore I would have either moved my hand out of the way to protect it against another touch, or refrained from touching it; and in either case the act would be a purely mental one, and under the government of the Will; but supposing I were asleep and a fly were to alight on the sore part of my hand and irritate it without awakening me, I should still, probably, remove my hand, or use some other means to rid myself of the inconvenience. Nevertheless, such an act, though performed for a purpose, would not be called a mental act, or an act of the will. It would, in accordance with the present state of mental science, and the judgments of the highest authorities, be called a *reflex* act. You will, therefore, perceive that an act of the will is one thing, and a reflex act is a very different thing; although both may be performed for a similar purpose.

At this point, Mr Morgan, with the assistance of illustrative diagrams, gave a long, lucid, and very simple and useful explanation of the brain and nervous system, of which the following is a brief summary:—

The brain, spinal cord, and the nervous ganglions are composed of two kinds of tissue. The one is white and fibrous, the other is a reddish grey or ash coloured, pulpy and cellular substance. The nerves are made up of the fibrous portion only. The fibres, which are very thin, run parallel to each other, something like as in a skein of fine silk thread with a covering of white paper rolled round it. There are *three kinds* of nerves. (1). The sensory; (2). The motor; (3). The sympathetic. The function of the sensory nerves is to convey all impressions made on the exterior of the body to the spinal cord and the brain; hence they are called incarrying nerves. The motor nerves conduct all stimulus from the spine and brain outward to the muscles, consequently they are outcarrying nerves. So every feeling is produced through the medium of the sensory or incarrying nerves; and all motion is produced through the motor or outcarrying nerves. The function of the sympathetic nerves is to unite the organs of the system in a bond of sympathy. For instance, a headache is often caused by a disordered stomach. That is, the head sympathises with the stomach, and this takes place by the sympathetic nerves conveying the condition or irritation of the stomach to the brain. Now, in the course of these nerves there are many knots, which are named ganglions; and a ganglion also appears on each sensory nerve at its root where it emerges from the back of the spinal cord. These ganglions perform important functions; and in each there is a quantity of the grey cellular tissue. The fibres of the nerve in approaching a ganglion separate themselves and plunge into the grey tissue, then in coming out at the opposite end or side, they reunite and go together until coming to another ganglion, then they behave in a similar way as in the case just described.

The brain is a ganglion, or consists of a number of ganglions; and each contains a greater or less quantity of grey cellular tissue, which is variously disposed. Indeed, as we have two eyes, two ears, and two nostrils, so have we two brains—one at each side of the head which run parallel to each other from the front to the back head; but they are called hemispheres of the brain. They are joined to each other by cross fibrous bands, or coupling chains, named commissures. Besides these two divisions of the brain, there is another—the cerebrum and the cerebellum. The former is seven or eight times larger than the latter in the adult; and about thirteen or fifteen times larger in the infant. Hence it is properly inferred that whatever other functions the latter or cerebellum may have, it has one or more that are not required so much in infancy, if at all, as in maturity. It is situated at the lower part of the back head adjoining the neck; and the cerebrum occupies the whole of the remaining part of the skull.

The grey cellular tissue of the cerebrum is placed round its circumference like the bark of a tree; and with reference to its position it is called corticle—the Latin term for bark; but it has other two names: one is derived from its colour, viz., cineretitious, which means ash colour; and the other from its texture, viz., cellular, or cell formed tissue.

This covering of the cerebrum is thin, yet consists of six layers or zones, and each layer contains thousands of cells; and it is in these cells where all feeling and thought takes place, and where motor force is stored and sent forth to the muscles to put them in motion.

The white matter of the cerebrum, which is considerable, is entirely of a fibrous nature. It appears to the eye to be a solid mass; but the microscope shows it is a great bundle of fibres made up of fascicles or little bundles of sensory and motor fibres—the total number of which is estimated to be millions. Moreover, there are embedded in the base of this fibrous matter several ganglions. Two of these are rather large, and perform such important functions as to require special notice; but first of all, said Mr Morgan, I will point out the fact that at the top of the spinal cord there is a ganglion called the medulla oblongata or long marrow. This in reality is a continuation of the spinal cord that is within the skull. This cord is protected by the backbone, and it may be likened to a railway, and the medulla oblongata to the great function of the line. Of course, like all other ganglions, it contains some cellular tissue.

The two great ganglions just mentioned are situated at the base of the cerebrum a little above and in front of the medulla oblongata—the posterir third of their length being above the opening of the ear, and the other two thirds in front of it. This is not a strictly accurate description, but it is near enough for our present purpose. A ganglion, as Mr Tate said, is a little brain, or more properly, it may be spoken of as such. It is, functionally, a reinforcing and reflecting organ. To reinforce is to strengthen, or to accelerate a received stimulous, or to do both at the same time. To reflect a stimulous or other thing is to turn or bend, or throw it back. Example. You throw a ball on a straight line against a wall, with enough force, and it would be turned or reflected back in the direction from which it was thrown. Now this turning of the ball would be a reflex movement, and a similar one to a reflex action of a ganglion. An impression, such as a touch on the skin, is thrown, as it were, on a spinal ganglion, and it is at once turned or reflected outward and causes muscular action. In order to make this clearer still, said the lecturer, let us refer to the act of my touching my hand, and also to the illustration of what would likely occur when I was asleep if a fly alighted on a sore place of my hand. The touch of my hand caused me to feel the impression of the contact. How did this occur? It occurred thus. The slight touch impressed and stimulated one or more sensitive nerves, and they conveyed, by a vibratory motion, the stimulous to a spinal ganglion, and from which it was sent up the spine and through the medulla oblongata to one of the large central ganglions before mentioned as being at the base of the cerebrum, which is called *Thalamus Opticus*, which means the bed of the centre of vision, there the stimulous was reinforced and passed onward and upward to the sensitive cells of the cellular tissue of the cerebrum and this aroused consciousness and produced feeling. Now if, instead of a simple touch, the impression had been great, the muscular system would have been agitated and this would have been produced in the following way. Lying beside the sensitive cells are a number of motor cells, and these would have been stirred to action to discharge force through the motor fibres down to the other central ganglion which lies partly in front of and above the Thalamus Opticus of each hemisphere. That ganglion goes by the name of the Striated body in consequence of the fibrous and cellular tissues of which it is composed lying parallel and forming a streaked appearance. This is a purely motor ganglion and every motor impulse passes through it, and is reinforced by it; whereas the Thalamus Opticus is a sensitive ganglion and is the receiver and reinforcer of sensitive stimulous. Moreover, as all of this kind of stimulous caused by contact on the external surface passes through the medulla oblongata, so do the motor impulses pass through it downward and outward to the muscles.

Mr Morgan having further illustrated and simplified his description of those various organs and their respective functions, he gave an able critique of Mr Tate's system, and showed most conclusively that his divisions of the brain and grouping of the organs are altogether contrary to the nature of things; and that, as we said in our notice of the New Phrenology, it has no anatomical or physiological basis; but is built on an imaginary sand-drift. For instance—Mr Tate spoke of the Cerebellum being the source of motor force, whereas instead of this being the case, physiologists are not agreed as what the functions of this organ are; excepting that it is in some way related to motor action. It is considered as an organ that co-ordinates movement. That is to say, it, in some, yet unknown, way, co-operates with the Cerebrum, and helps it in solitional acts; but no other person in the wide world but Mr Tate ever conceived such a silly idea as that of the organ in question being the source of power.

The farthest that any physiologist has gone in this direction is to suppose (not to prove) that the Cerebellum is "A supreme motor centre for reinforcing and for helping to regulate the qualitative and quantitative distribution of outgoing currents (motor currents) in voluntary and automatic actions." *Bastian*, in Brain as an Organ of Mind, p. 509. But in the same way, if not more so, are the striated bodies supreme organs of reinforcement of motor impulses.

Indeed, Bastian merely puts the Cerebellum on a par with the spinal cord, as a reinforcer and regulator of voluntary and automatic actions; and he merely echoes the opinions, or speculations of other authorities in physiology.

Again, Mr Tate gave a long disquisition on the human eye as a medium of communication with the outer or object world, and on the large amount of knowledge we acquire by its mediumship. So far this part of his discourse was very interesting; but immediately he began to treat on the operations of the mind and its capacities, in a psychological and phrenological point of view, he began to stumble, and soon got into a labyrinth of speculation from which he could not extricate himself.

He assigned about a half of the human head from the brow backward to the eye as its organ, and as the store chamber of the knowledge it acquires. On this branch of the subject he showed no sign of doubt; but spoke with, if not commendable, certainly much self-assurance; yet he did not give a single anatomical, or physiological, or psychological fact in support of his asserations, but apparantly expected the audience would unquestionally receive his doctrine as unassailable truth. This teaching is complete arrant nonsense.

The portion of the brain marked off by Mr Tate as the eye-organ comprises the whole of the frontal lobe, half of the temporosphenoidal lobe, and a portion of the parietal lobe, all of which are recognised by the physiological authorities of the day as having different functions. Not one of them doubts that the frontal lobe of the brain is the seat of the intellect, of perception, and reflection. Moreover, all psychologists and medicopsychologists teach that the intellect alone possesses memory—that the feelings or sentiments have no memory.

Now this eye-organ of Mr Tate's discovery, or imaginary creation, is the seat of several appetites and sentiments, hence according to both psychologists and phrenologists, much of it has no memory.

Again, every perception or idea of sound, of smell, of taste, and of touch, is perceived by the intellect, which remember has its seat in Mr Tate's eye-organ, which according to his fancy is related to the eye alone.

To pursue the subject further, and to dwell longer on the absurdity of the New Phrenology, so-called, would be painfully wearisome.

WEARDALE GUARDIANS AND SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The ordinary meeting of the Weardale Board of Guardians took place at Stanhope on Friday last—Dr Livingstone presiding.

WORKHOUSE STATISTICS.

It was reported that there had been 29 vagrants accommodated in the House during the past fortnight, as against 102 in the corresponding period of last year. There are 73 inmates in the Workhouse.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER FOR HUNSTANWORTH.

Mr Bainbridge, relieving officer, stated that he had received a letter from the Hunstanworth School Board asking him to act as attendance officer for that district, and he had informed them that he could not take the post without the sanction of the Guardians.

Mr LOVE proposed that Mr Bainbridge should be allowed to accept the office subject to the approval of the Local Government Board.

Mr SNOWBALL seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

DOCTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

At the meeting of the Rural Sanitary Authority, the Medical Officer's annual report for the Stanhope district was read, and showed that during 1885 there had been 52 deaths, being equal to a rate of only 10·5 per 1,000. There had been 94 births within the same period, giving an annual rate of 19·7 per 1,000. There had been two death from infectious diseases.

FROSTERLEY WATER SUPPLY.

An application for a water supply for a water-closet at Frosterley was refused, owing to a resolution passed by the Board not to allow private supplies.

The Surveyor recommended a closet with an under-flow, similar to those in use in Bristol, there being a good stream of water available.

THE NEW AUDITOR'S SURCHARGES.

It was reported that the new auditor, who had been through the accounts, had disallowed an account of £2 4s 3d for a pall cloth, &c., and of 15s 9d for some pipe fittings in connection with Wolsingham drainage, the Auditor demurring that these accounts had not been within the half-year during which they were contracted, though, it was now stated by members, no such objection had ever been taken by previous auditors, and in this instance no notice of the surcharge had been given to the members of the Authority.

The Authority having paid wages due to workmen employed by the contractor for Frosterley sewerage system, the Auditor, when interrogated as to the legal propriety of such payments, declined to offer either opinion or advice until the matter came before him officially, which it must in due course.

The CHAIRMAN said the only way to deal with the matter was to increase the allowance for "extras."

Mr RIDLEY asked whether it was not the law that any one letting a contract was responsible for the payment of the wages, and had a right to see that they were paid.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Clerk write to the Local Government Board, asking whether the Guardians were responsible for wages due, or whether they had liberty to pay the men, and the proposition was unanimously adopted.

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health Renewer."—Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion impotence of mind, limb, or vital unctious, mental or physical decline. At Chemists.

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B41 PILLS is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional, Gravel, and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers, THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln. Wholesale Agents, BARCLAY AND SONS, London, and all the Wholesale Houses.

THE LOCAL DISTRESS.

BLACKHILL.

A correspondent writes:—"The subscribers to the distress fund will be glad to learn that their donations are faithfully employed to meet the distress in Blackhill. As one of the subscribers to the fund, I visited the soup kitchen on Monday last and found in attendance, Mr A. E. Turner, Mr W. Palliser, Mr J. Palliser, Rev E. W. Jenkins, and the Rev A. Baillie. About 250 quarts of excellent soup, with about five stones of good bread, were served out to the people. Nearly all sorts of domestic vessels were requisitioned for this service—garden water pots or pans, tin cans of all sorts and sizes, tin lavors, pails, jugs, &c. The only qualification for a supply was the needs of the applicants. All Nationalities were represented. The soup is prepared by Mr Thomas Moore, and the bread by Mrs Jamison and other ladies. Mr John Jamison, treasurer, is in daily attendance, and patiently performs the duty of doorkeeper; while Miss Moore, Miss C. Watson, and Miss Jamison serves out the bread and soup, being assisted by members of the committee. It is reported that the soup and bread supplied is the only means of subsistence that some families have."

CROOK.

THE DISTRESS.—The result of the committee meeting on Monday night showed that the distress is about the same. Thirty pairs of clogs were placed on the list for distribution. Through the inadequacy of funds to purchase a new boiler, the committee has had to abandon the idea of increasing the supply of daily dinners. No new subscriptions had been received, and a further supply of coal has, as yet, not been forthcoming.

Football.

Jan. 16.—Tantobie 2nd v. Rendel 2nd, at Tantobie.
" 23.—Crookgate Rovers Juniors v. Medomsley 2nd, at Crookgate.
" 23.—Consett 1st v. Bishop Auckland 1st, at Bishop Auckland.
" 23.—Medomsley v. Newcastle Rangers, at Newcastle.
" 23.—Beamish and District v. Hebburn, at Hebburn Quay.
" 23.—Tantobie v. West End, at Tantobie.
" 30.—Consett 2nd v. Benwell 2nd, at Newcastle.
" 30.—Medomsley v. Tanfield Lea, at Medomsley.
" 30.—Beamish and District v. Dudley Rovers, at West Pelton.
" 30.—Crookgate Rovers 1st and Juniors v. South Moor 1st and Juniors, at Crookgate.
" 30.—Castleside v. Shotley Bridge, at Castleside. Tanfield Lea.

CROOK v. BENWELL.—Played on the Crook ground on Saturday, and resulted in a draw—Crook, three minor points; Benwell, nil.

TANTOBIE 2ND v. RENDEL 2ND.—Played on the ground of the former on Saturday, and resulted in a win for Tantobie by six goals to nil.

TOW LAW REDSKINS v. RUMBY HILL.—Played on the ground of the former on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for the Redskins by two goals to nil.

BEAMISH AND DISTRICT v. SOUTH MOOR ROVERS.—Played on Saturday on the ground of the former, in two thirties, and, after a rather one-sided game, the home team were left the victors by seven goals to nil.

CATCHGATE RED STARS v. CROOKGATE ROVERS.—These clubs met on the latter's ground on Saturday, and played two thirties. Catchgate played against the wind the first half, and secured three goals. On changing ends, the Stars added three more goals to their credit, thus the game ended in a victory for Catchgate by six goals to nil.

CLARENCE STREET v. TANFIELD LEA 3RD.—Played on Saturday on the Clarence ground, and, after a hard game, resulted in a draw, each team scoring one goal. The Tanfield backs wasted a lot of time in the second half by continually kicking the ball out of play. White and Nixon played well for the home team.

TANTOBIE v. MEDOMSLEY.—Tantobie journeyed to Medomsley on Saturday. The play was very hard owing to a covering of snow and a strong cross wind. In the first half of the game, against the wind, the visitors obtained one goal from a splendid shot by J. Richardson. Several attempts were made to add to the score, but the grand play of the home team prevented this. On changing ends, the ball was always in the home goal. Without any more score, the game ended in favour of the visitors by one goal to nil. For the visitors, J. Richardson and Hodgson, played well; while for the home team, the playing of T. D. Dales was superb, and he was well assisted by the full backs.

Sporting Items.

PIGEON SHOOTING AT STOCKSFIELD.—On Saturday, a pigeon shooting, promoted by Mr E. Chapman, Bywell Inn, was resumed in a field near Stocksfield, granted by Mr J. B. Lee. There was a good attendance of spectators. The entries numbered 42; the shooting was not finished, and again postponed; the stakes now amount to ten guineas, to which will be added the future entrance money. The shooting took place out of two traps. The conditions were 19 yards to 25 yards rise, 80 yards fall, first miss out. Mr M. Robson was referee, and Messrs J. Halliburton and J. Hawdon, trappers.

SHOOTING AT IVESTON.—This sweep was commenced on Saturday, when a good muster assembled to witness the shooting. Owing to the boisterous wind which was blowing, several reserved their entries until the sweep is concluded. Nevertheless, there were 12 entries, and the score resulted as follows:—Duty, 17, 1 1 1; Lumley, 17, 1 0; Thompson, 16, 0; Westgarth, 16, 0; M. Atthey, 16, 0; Old Jack, 16, 1 1 1; Crookhall, 18, 0; Consett, 18, 0: R. Reed, 16, 1 0; Go Away, 16, 0; Nothing, 18, 0; Lumley, 17, 1 1 1.

LINTZ GROUNDS.—A good number of spectators paid admission to these grounds on Saturday to witness the trial heats of a £7 10s 110 yards foot handicap. Some good running was witnessed, and the following won their heats:—Hugh McLean, Dunston, 11½ yards; H. Oliver, Winlaton, 12½; G. Glendinning, Leazes, 16½; W. Turner, Stanley, 14; T. Dixon, Lintzford, 18; Parslow, Throckley, 17; G. Cummings, Newcastle, 12; H. McGee, Leadgate, 17½; B. Jones, Gateshead, 14½; M. Pattison, Tanfield Lea, 16; J. Hutchinson, Stanley, 15; S. Veitch, Teams, 15½; J. Eltringham, Dipton, 11; R. Wilkinson, Consett, 16½; A. Bell, Stanley, 14½; W. Hornsby, Blackhill, 12½. The draw subsequently took place at the Black Horse Inn, Burnopfield, with the following result:—Heat 1—Turner, Hutchinson, McLean, and McGee. Heat 2—Eltringham, Veitch, Glendinning, and Dixon. Heat 3—Bell, Oliver, Jones, and Hornsby. Heat 4—Cummings, Parslow, Pattison, and Wilkinson.

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES quickly correct all irregularities, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 Stamps by the Maker, E. T. TOWLE, Chemist, Nottingham.

The most wholesome and nutritious of confections is far less consumed than it would be were it not for the greatly adulterated articles sold under the name of chocolate. Every cake of chocolate bearing the name of Cadbury is guaranteed to consist solely of pure Cocoa and white sugar, and may therefore be given to children with perfect safety. Chocolate makers by special appointment to the Queen.

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION at the *lowest* possible prices by ROBERT JACKSON "Guardian" Office, Consett. Estimates furnished.

DR BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For radicating all impurities of the blood from the system they have no equal. They have never failed to effect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease.—Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

THROAT AFFECTIONS AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country at 1s. 1½d. per box. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by JOHN I. BROWN & SONS, Boston, U.S. European depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road London.

General News.

On Tuesday, the West Durham and Tyne Railway Bill was before the examiners in Parliament and proved compliance with the standing orders.

THE CHILD'S PICTORIAL for January is, as usual, interesting to children, and deserves a large circulation.

ST. CUTHBERT'S MAGAZINE contains, in addition to the January number of "The Dawn of Day," interesting parish records and local information.

SUTTON'S AMATEUR'S GUIDE IN HORTICULTURE FOR 1886.—This is an unusually attractive handbook, and contains an immense amount of information for both amateur and professional gardeners. The book is not only interesting and instructive to all florists, but as a work of art it reflects great credit on the printers. Messrs Sutton and Sons, of Reading, are to be congratulated on the production of this excellent guide.

BISHOP OF DURHAM'S CHURCH-BUILDING FUND.—The following is a summary of the money raised for the above-mentioned object, also of various sums not passing directly through the fund, but devoted to church building, since January, 1884:—*Direct subscriptions (appropriated and unappropriated), £33,329 10s; offertories, £564 10s; money raised independently for churches recognised by the scheme, approximate estimate, £20,000; Ecclesiastical Commissioners, £6,500; other societies, £1,410; estimated value of sites, £4,984; total, £66,787. *Of direct subscriptions, £14,705 are appropriated to particular churches. The following local grants were made:—To St. Aidan's, Blackhill, population, 3,500, amount, £500; St. John's, Dipton, population, 3,800, amount, £600; Pelton Fell Mission Room, population, 3,000, amount, £50. The total grants amount to £8,100.

HOW WE ARE FLEECED.—A short time ago great lamentation was made through the columns of a local newspaper of the introduction of an exhibition of a somewhat repugnant character into one of the most respectable streets of a large town in this district, and which the tradesmen of that particular street were desirous of putting a stop to. A gentleman residing in town being somewhat interested in the marvellous freaks which nature sometimes plays, paid a visit to the "show" where two interesting samples of feminine obesity were being displayed to a crowded audience. Judge of his surprise when he recognised the two lovely specimens of humanity exhibited as sisters of the respective ages of 19 and 18, but who are really many years older, as persons not altogether unknown to him, one as a "pedlar" or itinerant merchant, the other for some time the proprietess of an exhibition, and who, at one period, would scarcely have imagined that she would ever be exhibited herself. Very few persons would have had the audacity to try such a trick, but it was reserved for an "enterprising" foreigner to relieve poor easily-gulled "John Bull" of his superfluous coin by the exhibition of two persons so well-known by his "victims."

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—During every break of wintry weather exertions should be made by the afflicted to recover health before unremitting cold and trying storms set in. Throat ailments, coughs, wheezings, asthmatical affections, shortness of breath, morning nausea, and accumulations of phlegm can readily be removed by rubbing this fine derivative Ointment twice a day upon the chest and neck. Holloway's treatment is strongly recommended with the view of giving immediate ease, preventing prospective danger, and effecting permanent relief. These all-important ends his Ointment and Pills can accomplish, and will surely prevent insidious diseases from fastening on the constitution to display themselves afterwards in those disastrous forms that will probably embitter life till death itself is almost prayed for.

MINERAL ROYALTIES.—PROPOSED LEGISLATION.—A bill is to be introduced into the House of Commons at the opening of the business session by Mr Conybeare, having for its object the compulsory sale of all mineral royalties to the neighbouring Corporations, Local Boards, or Local Authorities, for a sum based upon the royalty rents paid over a period of five years. The bill is one of much importance in the North, where the question of royalties generally has been the subject of much discussion on the part of both employers and workmen, the employers feeling strongly that they are unfairly handicapped in their competition with the foreigner by reason of the much higher range of royalty rents in this country as compared with the iron-producing districts of the Continent. It is understood that Mr Conybeare's bill has the approval of the employers in various departments of the iron trade, who beleive that it will be likely to afford them some relief. Mr Isaac Wilson, M.P. for Middlesbrough, and Mr Henry Fell Pease, M.P. for Cleveland, have been requested to support the bill in Parliament.

It is the intention of Mr Walter Shirley, M.P. for Yorkshire (Doncaster Division), to introduce a bill for the purpose of rendering unnecessary the presence of a registrar at marriages in Nonconformist chapels, and also a bill for the purpose of permitting the occasional use of churches and cathedrals to Dissenting bodies for the celebration of Divine worship.

The losses by death during the year in the ranks of the Wesleyan ministry in the home work have been 26, and their united ages 1,800 years, giving an average of 69 years to each, which for Methodism is exceptionally high, taking into account the increasing cares and responsibilities of circuit work. The offshoots of Methodism are not so fortunate as the parent body. Some time ago the Primitive Methodists found that they were using up their men too quickly, that they too soon became supernumeraries, and after this discovery their ministers were eased in their work, with increased advantage to their length of service.

PRESENT POSITION OF METHODISM.—The following statistics have recently been published relative to the various branches of the Methodist Church:—*Wesleyan Methodism*—Districts in Great Britian, 35; circuits, 744; districts in Ireland, 10; circuits, 131; members, 412,163; on trial, 30,861; ministers, 1,589; on probation, 70; supernumeraries, 288; in all, including foreign missions, 535,103 members, 46,673 on trial, 2,162 ministers, 270 probationers, 355 supernumeraries. *Primitive Methodists*—1,042 travelling preachers, 649 circuits 4,282 connexional chapels, 1,797 other preaching places, 192,389 members (including those on trial) 4,104 Sunday schools, and 405,389 scholars. *United Medodist Free Church.*—419 itinerant ministers, 3,312 local preachers, 1,363 chapels, 84,653 members (including foreign missions), 196,756 Sunday scholars.

LOCAL CASES AT HEXHAM PETTY SESSIONS.—Four young men, named *Thomas Yellowby*, clerk; *James Graham*, painter; *M. Wilkinson*, cartman; *James White*, coal agent, belonging to Hexham, were summoned before Mr R. Walis and Captain Atkinson, at Hexham, for trespassing, on Christmas Day, on Anick Grange Farm, in search of rabbits. The young men had a written authority from the tenant, but it appeared that the game was reserved in the lease.—The Chairman (Mr Wallis) said he was afraid they must convict them. Mr Welford (for the defendants): You have discretionary powers. Any person is liable to misunderstand the Act.—The Chairman: It is rather an important case. The farmers seem to think they can give anyone leave to kill ground game.—Mr Welford: Farmers can be under delusions with regard to every Act granted by Mr Gladstone.—Capt. Atkinson: We won't go into politics just now.—The Chairman said it was quite evident the defendants were respectable young men and had simply gone upon the farm for amusement. They would each be fined 5s and costs.—*Hugh Judge*, labourer, Blackhill, was fined 10s and costs for having a rabbit in his possession when searched on the highway at Blanchland, on the 27th ult.—*Mary Brookhouse*, Fox and Hounds Inn, Prudhoe, was charged with committing a breach of the Licensing Act on the 1st of January, and ten men were charged with being on the premises during prohibited hours on the same date.—Mr W. Pruddah, solicitor, Hexham, defended.—The defendants, it appeared, had been found in the house by Sergt. Gair about two o'clock in the morning.—It was contended, for the defendants, that they had merely gone there in a neighbourly and social manner to wish the landlady a "Happy New Year," and that they had not had any liquor at the time they were disturbed.—The case was dismissed.

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, flies, bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c. 7½d. and 1s. boxes.

Business Announcements.

FOURTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends at Miss Williams', No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 11 a.m., to 3 p.m.

ESTABLISHED 1830.

FRATER'S MAHOGANY VARNISH.

Moses! bring me a Bottle of Frater's Mahogany Varnish. We are going to CLEAN THE FURNITURE, and there is no other any use. For quantity, quality, and popularity, there is nothing like it in the Market.

GEORGE FRATER,
PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE.

YOU SHOULD SEE THE SPLENDID
STOCK OF LAMPS
FROM 6d. EACH, AT
J. W. DAVISON'S,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
ALSO, PARAFFIN OIL, AT 1d. PER PINT.

A STOCK OF LADIES' BAGS. The like not shown before in Consett. 243v

MISS E. A. SLOANE
(Organist of St. Mary's, Blackhill),

HAVING recently finished Musical Studies under W. REA, Esq., R.A.M., Newcastle-on-Tyne, is now prepared to give LESSONS IN HARMONY, also on the PIANO, HARMONIUM, and ORGAN.
ADDRESS:—
POST OFFICE, BLACKHILL. 485v

MRS. CLEMINSON'S SCHOOL,
WEAR TERRACE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

MANY PUPILS from this School have passed in Honours the Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham Local Examinations, Trinity College of Music, &c.
Masters for Arithmetic, Drawing, and Painting; a French Governess Diplomee; Music—by a Pupil of the late Sir Sterndale Bennett. 4v

INDIA RUBBER STAMPS,
FOR Endorsing Envelopes, Cheques, and Postal Cards, Heading Notepaper, Marking Linen and Pigeons, Stamping Monograms, Crests, and fac-similes of Signature.
POCKET AND DATING STAMPS,
Price and Pattern Sheets Free on application.
WILLIAM COLDICOTT,
BRIDGEMAN STREET, WALSALL. 783s

QUEENSLAND.

This young and promising Colony offers Special Advantages to all classes, and the QUEENSLAND ROYAL MAIL LINE convey Passengers ...

☞ BY STEAMER FOR £7.

MAIL or other Steamers will be despatched from LONDON or PLYMOUTH fortnightly, by which ASSISTED PASSAGES will be granted to eligible Persons, such as Engineers, Farmers, Fitters, Engine Drivers, Railway Carriage Builders, Blacksmiths, Bricklayers, Stonemasons, Sawyers, Carpenters, Wheelwrights, Shoemakers, Tailors, Shipwrights, Farm Labourers, Domestic Servants, Gardeners, Vine Dressers, Road Makers, Miners, Quarrymen, Navvies, at the following rates:—
SECOND CABIN...£21 10s. | THIRD CLASS...£7.
Children under 12 years, half-price. Infants under 12 months, free. Persons not eligible for assisted passages will be taken at the following rates:—Second Cabin, £31 10s.; Third Class, £17.
For further particulars regarding Passages, Land Laws, and Resources of the Colony, apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, & Co., 109, Leadenhall Street, London, and 12, Renfield Street, Glasgow; or to WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, Queensland Emigration Office, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; or to the Local Agent,
ADAM BRODIE,
529v Town Hall, Consett.

ROBERT JACKSON'S
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY
ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET
STREET, CONSETT.
☞ AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK
SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

SHEEP DIPS. SHEEP DIPS
THOMAS MILNER,
DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,
☞ THE CENTRAL PHARMACY, CONSETT
Respectfully draws the attention of Farmers to the
TAR ELIXIR PRIZE MEDAL SHEEP DIP
Prepared by Messrs NESS & Co., Darlington, for which he is sole Agent.
PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.
Also, the THYMO CRESOL UNIVERSAL PURIFIER, most excellent as a Disinfectant and Wash for Cattle.
Price 6d. and 1s. per Bottle, or 2s. 6d. per Quart.
☞ T. M. is likewise Agent for BELL & RIDDLE'S, McDOUGALL'S, LITTLE, & Co.'s, JEYE'S, COOPER'S, and WILSON and KITCHEN'S Sheep Dips.
ALTERATIVE CONDITION POWDERS AND PURGING BALLS FOR HORSES.
FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.
☞ HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
Milner's Dandelion and Podophyllyn Pills, excellent for the Stomach, and all diseases of the Liver.
Sarsaparilla Blood Purifying Mixture.
HOP BARK AND TONIC BITTERS IN 6d. PACKETS.
FINEST COD LIVER OIL. TASTELESS ITALIAN CASTOR OIL.
ORANGE QUININE WINE. QUININE AND IRON TONIC, &c.
CHOLERA AND DIARRHŒA MIXTURE, 1s. per Bottle.
MILNER'S BLUE RIBBON WINE MIXTURE, 1s. PER BOTTLE.
BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.
HAIR RESTORERS' PERFUMES, POMADES, TOILET REQUISITES IN GREAT VARIETY.
SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.
TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.
Agent for Mr LAMONT'S Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c., &c.
OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, AND CLEANING REQUISITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
MILNER, CHEMIST,
OPPOSITE THE POST-OFFICE CONSETT. 984u

REVELY AND KELL,
IMPORTERS OF
FOREIGN WINES AND SPIRITS,
WHOLESALE AND FAMILY MERCHANTS,
No, 7, COLLINGWOOD STREET, NEWCASTLE

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE PRIOR TO STOCKTAKING, OF
LAMPS, CHANDELIERS, GAS-FITTINGS, AND GENERAL HARDWARE, AT
SANDS AND DOYLE'S
(Late with J. C. HALLIDAY),
3, NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE.
PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESS. 581v

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nicke Siver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 920

H. GUTTERIDGE,
SCALE, BEAM, AND WEIGHING MACHINE MANUFACTURER,
BUTCHERS' STEELYARDS, MINCING MACHINES, &c.
REPAIRS DONE ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.
NOTE ADDRESS:—33, WESTGATE ROAD (near Central Railway Station), NEWCASTLE. 450v

JOHN FREEK,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER,
23, VICTORIA STREET,
CONSETT.

HOT DINNERS, TEAS, and other REFRESHMENTS on the Shortest Notice and most Reasonable Terms.
N.B.—As J. F. has a REGISTRY OFFICE in connection with his Business, Ladies wanting Servants would do well to give him a call. 384o

SAVED! SAVED!! SAVED!!!
FROM
DIRT, DISEASE, AND HARD WORK, BY
HARRISON'S
MAGIC ARIZONIC SOAP.
☞ It washes black things white; and is noted for its Cures of Scurvy, Ringworm, Cuts, Sores, Corns, and Bad Feet. PRICE—3d. per lb.
SOLE AGENCY—
1A, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT. 97v

SOUTH BIRTLEY STEAM BRICK & TILE WORKS, CO. DURHAM.
ESTABLISHED 1852.
J. F. SWINBURN, PROPRIETOR.
AGRICULTURAL DRAIN PIPES of all sizes, and of the very best quality, delivered to any Railway Station at very low rates. Also, BRICKS, FLOWER POTS, and everything in the Trade.
SPECIAL QUOTATIONS FOR LARGE QUANTITIES.
Price Lists on Application. 517v

OLD ESTABLISHED CHEAP STATIONERY DEPOT.
J. COCKBURN,
NEWSAGENT, PRINTER, BOOKBINDER, FANCY STATIONER, & CONFECTIONER,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
Desk and Pocket Diaries, 1886. Account Books, Birthday Cards. Fancy and General Stationery in great variety.
A few Xmas *Graphics* and *Illustrated London News* to be sold cheap.
☞ London and other Papers delivered to order. Books not in Stock, to be had on a short notice.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

EVERY kind of SEWING MACHINE REPAIRED, or taken in PART EXCHANGE for our own. Post Card from any port of the district will receive prompt attention by
THE SINGER MANUFACTURING Co.
NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS,
CONSETT, AND
JAMES STREET, WEST STANLEY, R.S.O.
Head Office in the District:—16, GRAINGER ST. WEST, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
The only Manufacturers of Singers' Celebrated Sewing Machines. 622v

Public Notices.

NOTICE.—THOMAS WILKINSON, Billposter, 11, Trafalgar Street, Consett, had no connection with the "Candymen." 579v

ALMANACK SHOW.

A GOLD MEDAL, Value £1 10s., will be given by W. J. CAWTHORN, Proprietor of the Black Horse Inn, Burnopfield, to the person who presents him with the Best Almanack for 1886. To be judged by a well-known Artist on January 30th, 1886. Entrance Free. 567v

MR. ALFRED A. HEMY, son of the Author of Hemy's Pianoforte Tutor, begs respectfully to announce that he is prepared to ATTEND PUPILS for PIANOFORTE and HARMONIUM, in Consett, Shotley Bridge, and District.
☞ For Terms, &c., address The Ferns, Eshe, Durham. 525v

YE QUEEN MARY
BOOK OF HOUSEHOLD RECEIPES,
Containing Fifty Ancient and Valuable Receipes of our Ancestors (over Three Hundred Years old). Every Housekeeper in the United Kingdom should have a copy who believes in the good old Remedies of our ancestors. Post Free ONE SHILLING, direct from the Publisher and Proprietor, J. MAGUIRE, St. John's Cottage, Partridge Green, Sussex. 560v

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, or Consuming Gas upon any Premises without first having obtained permission from the Secretary to the said Company, will be prosecuted as the Law directs.—By order,
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
Gas Office, Shotley Bridge. 148v

Public Notices.

AN ADDRESS will be (D.V.) delivered by the LORD BISHOP OF PRETORIA (Transvaal, South Africa) in St. Cuthbert's School, Church Bank, Benfieldside, on Thursday next, at 7·30 p.m. Admission Free. Collection for Mission. 615v

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

ON SATURDAY, January 23rd, an Excursion Train will leave Consett (including Bookings from Knitsley, Lanchester, Witton Gilbert, Aldin Grange, and Durham), at 2·30 p.m., for SUNDERLAND, returning at 11 p.m. the same day.
Fare: There and Back, Third Class, 1s. 6d. 664v

INDEPENDENT UNITED ORDER OF MECHANICS.
Reg. No. 849. Blackhill District.
"BROTHERLY LOVE" LODGE, LEADGATE.

NOTICE.—There will be a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the above Lodge, on Saturday night, January 23rd, 1886, at Six o'clock in the Evening.
584v BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE.

NORTH WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Saturday, January 23rd, 1885, as follows:
Meeting of the Council in the Smaller Hall, at 2·30 p.m.
Public Meeting in the Large Hall, at 6·30 p.m., to be Addressed by Messrs. L. A. ATHERLEY-JONES, M.P., J. PRIESTMAN, J.P., and other Gentlemen.
Mr. W. JENKINS, J.P., in the Chair.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.
Consett, January 8th, 1886. 568v

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

A LECTURE will be given in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Saturday, January 30th, on "The Emancipation of Labour," by Mr. HENRY ROWLEY, of London, Secretary to the Labour Association for promoting Productive Co-operation.
Admission Free by Ticket, to be had of any of the Committee, and at the Co-operative Society's Office, or at the Door of the Hall on the night of the Lecture.
Doors open at 6·30; to commence at 7 prompt
Chair to be taken by Mr. GEORGE LOWES, President of the Consett Co-operative Society. 612v

BANQUET TO COLONEL WILBRAHAM.

A PUBLIC BANQUET will be given, and an ADDRESS PRESENTED to COLONEL WILBRAHAM, on Wednesday, the 24th February next, in the New Town Hall, Consett.
Dinner will be served punctually at 6 o'clock p.m.
Tickets. 3s. each, may be had on application to
Mr. R. L. ARMSTRONG, 21, Leazes Terrace, Newcastle.
" J. LAX, Shotley Bridge.
" J. S. MURRAY, Blackhill.
" GEO. FREEK, do.
" ED. SLOANE, do.
" WM. RAW, do.
" WILLIAM SHELL, Consett.
" JOHN W. DAVISON, do.
" JOHN HARKNESS, do.
" R. WINTER, Leadgate.
" G. NICHOLSON, do.
" W. ELTRINGHAM, Catchgate.
Dr. MANTLE, Stanley.
Mr. ROBERT REED, Lintz Colliery.
" WILLIAM WELSH, South Moor.
" RALPH WALTON, Lanchester.
" HENRY HORNSBY, Hamsteels Colliery.
" ROBERT MOFFITT, Medomsley.
Or the Honorary Secretaries.
An early application for Tickets is desired, as the number will be limited to the accommodation.
GEORGE J. CHRISTOPHER, Consett,
J. J. THOMPSON, Lanchester,
623v Honorary Secretaries.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

The Mains Farm, Ebchester.
☞ Important Sale of Farming Stock, Crop, Farm Implements, &c.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, honoured with a commission from the Representatives of the late R. Dickinson, Esq., will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above Farm, on Thursday, February 4th, 1886, the whole of the Valuable HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, HAY & CORN, in Stack, TURNIPS, POTATOES, and an array of IMPLEMENTS of HUSBANDRY, and other Accessories, of a quality such as is seldom submitted for Public Competition, comprising:—

HORSES.
Black Horse, 7 years old, 17 hands high; Bay Horse, 7 years old, 16 hands; Brown Horse, aged, 16 hands; Bay Horse, aged, 16·2 hands; Grey Horse, 8 years old, 15·2 hands.

CATTLE.
3 Milk Cows, in Calf; Geld Cow; 6 Valuable Polled Angus Cows and Heifers; Bull, 12 Months old; 6 Prime Bullocks, 1 year and 9 months old; 2 Heifers, year and a half old; Two years old Heifer, in Calf; 3 six months old Stirks; 6 Finger Calves; 1 Fat Cow; 1 Fat Heifer.

SHEEP.
22 Leicester Ewes, in Lambs; 20 Leicester Tup Lambs; 16 Gimmer Lambs; 3 Fat Leicester Shearling Lambs; 1 Leicester Tup.

PIGS AND POULTRY.
2 Brood Sows; 7 Pigs, 8 weeks old at time of sale; 1 Strong Pork Pig; 50 Head of Poultry.

FARM IMPLEMENTS & ACCESSORIES.
3 Long and 3 Coup Carts; Sheep Rails for 2 Long Carts; 3 Iron Single Ploughs; Double Plough; 3 Double Mouldboard Ploughs; 2 Scuffling do.; Four-horse Grubber; 2 Pairs of Iron Harrows; Pair of Wood do.; Pair of Chain Harrows; Drag Harrows;— Large Metal Roller; Wood do.; Double Turnip Drill and Roller; 2 Horse Hay Tedders; 2 Horse Hay Rakes; American do.; Iron Hay Sweep; Combined Reaping Machine; 2 Grass-cutting Machines; Four-horse Thrashing Machine; Winnowing Machine; 2 Turnip Cutters, by Samuelson; Turnip Cutter, by McGregor; 3 Oilcake Crushers, by Colgrave; Patent Grindstone, for Reaper Knives; Liquid Manure Chain Pump, quite new; Cattle Food Steaming Apparatus, with Appendages, by Richardson and Chandler; Large Wooden Cistern; 8 Sheep Racks; 16 Sheep Troughs; 20 Cattle-feeding Troughs and Tubs; 4 Dozen Hurdles; 150 Yards of Sheep Netting and Stakes; Sheep-dipping Tup; Sheep Stool; 4 Stackyard Ladders; 2 large Trestles; Stack Cover; 2 Hay Knives; a lot of Stack Pins; Corn Measure, Shovel, and Scoops; 3 Sets of Swingletrees; 1 Four-horse and 1 Three-horse do.; Hand Stubble Rake; 3 Aberdeen Scythes; 3 Hen Coops; Wheelbarrow; Joiners' Bench; Gantry; Cask of Stockholm Tar; Large Metal Pot, with Fire Grate; large Dog Kennel; Pheasantry, 23ft. 6in. by 17ft. 4in., little worse than new, well adapted for a Hen House; 8 Pieces of Timber, 112 sup. ft, 8in. square; 3 Larch Posts, 10ft. each, 7in. diameter; Scaffolding Planks and Battens; Flooring Deals, &c.; 4 Sets of Cart, and 4 Sets of Plough Gears; 3 Sets of Trace Gears, with Quarter Straps; 2 Pairs of Stretcher Chains; 3 Cart Back and 3 Cart Belly Bands; 4 Quarter Cloths; 3 Horse Sheets; Riding Saddle and Bridle; Riding Pad; 4 Pairs of Leather Cart Reins; 4 Pairs of Cart Ropes; with all the Hand and Stable Implements; 2 large Earthenware Water Troughs; Large Water Butt and other Tubs, Pails, &c.; and a lot of Old Iron.
Stack of well-won Hay; 4 Stacks of Oats; Stack of Wheat; about 10 Tons of Excellent Potatoes, sold in 10 Stone Bags, to suit Purchasers; also a quantity of Swede Turnips.
Also, Hay Shade, in Park, 93ft. by 20ft.; Wood Horse House, in Park, 12ft. by 12ft.
Sale to commence at 11 o'clock a.m. punctually.
The Auctioneer, in directing attention to the above Sale, begs to state that the Horses are in grand working order; the Cattle, Sheep and Poultry are all young and perfectly healthy; the Polled Angus are a rich lot; and the Implements are all, without exception, nearly new.
Also, the EATAGE of 15 Acres of GRASS LAND up to the 6th of April, and 18 Acres up to the 13th day of May.
An early attendance is respectfully requested.
Wood Street, Shotley Bridge. 617v

☞ JOSEPH OLEY,
THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
10, WOOD STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

ADAM BRODIE & ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, Consett, undertake the Sale by Public Auction or otherwise, of Houses and Land, Farming Stocks, Household Furniture, Merchandise, or other Effects, on reasonable terms. Valuations for Probate Dissolution of Partnership, and Settlement of Claims under Fire Insurances, or in disputes. Fire, Life, and Accident Assurances arranged without delay. Shares of every description Bought and Sold on Commission. The Victoria Sale-Rooms are always open for the reception of Goods for absolute Sale.
Postal address—ADAM BRODIE & ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25th, 1886.
18 Prime Fat Cattle, including both heavy and medium weights.
140 Very Prime Fat Sheep, mostly Hoggs and Grey-face Shearlings.
10 to 15 Cows, calved and to calve.
Veal and other Calves, Pork and Store Pigs.
10 Tons of Prime Swede Turnips.
2 Tons of Well-won Old-land Hay.
Traps, Harness, Horse Clothing, Poultry, &c.
Sale at One o'clock.
621v NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

WEEKLY SALE, MONDAY, JANUARY 25th, 1886. Present Entries—
17 Dairy Cows and Heifers.
16 Fat Cattle.
3 Geld Cows.
12 Steers and Heifers, 1 to 2½ years old.
10 Prime Fat Cattle, from Billy Hall and other local farms.
100 Fat Sheep.
30 B.F. Ewes (young and sound), in Lamb to Leicester Tup.
2 Tons of Old-land Hay.
New Pulley Blocks, Back Bands, and Shoulder Chains.
Cattle, Poultry, &c.
Entries to day of Sale.
Sale at 12·30.
Trucks at Station.
J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Grove Villa, Tow Law. 598v

Wolsingham.—Sale of Farming Stock and Crops, Implements, &c.

JOSEPH VICKERS, favoured with instructions from Mr. THOMPSON WHITFIELD, who is retiring from Farming, will SELL BY AUCTION, in a Field adjoining the Highway, and near the Steelworks, Wolsingham, on Tuesday, January 26th, 1886, the whole of his FARMING STOCK, WAGGON HORSES, &c., a Large and Complete Collection of FARM IMPLEMENTS, LONG and SHORT CARTS, WAGGONS, &c., HAY, and other CROPS (to go off). See Bills.
Sale at 1 p.m. prompt.
Trains arrive at Wolsingham from Darlington about 12 noon.
Sale Office, Grove Villa, Tow Law. 599v

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Burnopfield.—Monday, February 1st, 1886,

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by the Representatives of the late RICHARD GIBSON, will SELL BY AUCTION, as above, all the Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS. See Bills.
Sale to begin at One o'clock. 602v

CHEAP EMIGRATION.

GREAT REDUCTION IN FARES TO AMERICA, QUEENSLAND, &c.
Liverpool to America, £3 16s. and £4, by the best Lines.
To Australian Colonies at the Lowest Rates.
For reliable information, apply to
269u A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer Dipton.

By Mr. George Barnes.

NOTICE.

THE SALE OF HOUSES and BUILDING SITES, at Lanchester, Advertised for Sale at the Three Tuns, Durham, on Tuesday, February 2nd, 1886, WILL NOT TAKE PLACE.
601v GEORGE BARNES, Auctioneer.

JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER & FURNITURE AUCTIONEER,
25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.
Business done promptly, and on reasonable terms.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 801u

GEORGE R. HOBSON,
AUCTIONEER & VALUER.
OFFICES:—
CATCHGATE, VIA LINTZ GREEN. 220v

Peel's Great Northern Horse Repository, Haymarket.
The Oldest Established in the City.
SALES BY AUCTION OF HORSES, CARRIAGES, and SADDLERY, EVERY TUESDAY, at Two o'clock.
Entries respectfully Solicited.
A. T. CROW, Auctioneer.
JOHN PEEL, Proprietor.

Business Announcements.

SAFETY BICYCLES! SAFETY BICYCLES!!

THE Latest Novelty in Safety Bicycles is the—"NORTHERN,"
Manufactured by the NORTH OF ENGLAND BICYCLE Co., 44, High Bridge, Newcastle. Send for Price List FREE. Second-hand Bicycles from £2 0s. 0d.
We are Clearing out our present Stock to make room for our New "Northern" Bicycles and Humber Pattern Tandem and Crypto Tricycles. 416v

THE NEW
COAL & STONE BORING MACHINE
From 20s. and 25s. each, complete with Drills.
Also, BURT'S & HARDY'S PATENT STEEL PICKS and SHAFTS, DRILLS, JUMPERS, and STEMMING GEAR, Wholesale and Retail at
THOMAS BOSTON'S,
NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL, CONSETT.
☞ SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.
Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property repayable as arranged, or for fixed periods.
428u ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT
Is now recommended by the Leading Medical Men in the North, as being
THE MOST SUITABLE WINE
FOR
SICK PERSONS AND INVALIDS.
☞ 36s. per Dozen; 3s. per Bottle. Carriage Paid on 6 Bottles and upwards.
W. GLENDENNING,
WINE MERCHANT,
9, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE.

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, Guns, &c., &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780.
12, PILGRIM STREET
FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET),
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
N.B.—A Large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES, Gold & Silver GUARDS, ALBERTS, &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices.

Business Announcements.

HIGH CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL
SURGEON DENTIST,
8, GRAINGER STREET,
NEWCASTLE.

☞ ARTIFICIAL TEETH AT REASONABLE PRICES.
COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET
From 30s. to £4 10s.
PARTIAL SETS OR SINGLE TEETH
From 3s. to 10s. per Tooth.
Every Set is adapted to the mouth on the most improved principles, without extraction of Stumps or other painful operation, guaranteed to fit perfectly and warranted.
Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide Gas.
Operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed, and all charges strictly moderate.
☞ Country Patients visiting Mr. CAMPBELL'S Establishment in Newcastle will have all the advantages of a most complete Dental Apparatus, and, whenever possible, will be allowed their railway fare

DRUGS AND PATENT MEDICINES AT STORE PRICES.
"ROBERTS,"
NEW BRIDGE STREET, AND
97, CLAYTON STREET,
NEWCASTLE.
DRUGS AND PATENT MEDICINES AT STORE PRICES. 373v

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

"LEAVES FROM A SAILOR'S LOG," from a Tyneside correspondent, next week.

DIARY OF A VOYAGE TO BRISBANE.—We have received Mr Joseph MacIntosh's diary of his voyage to Brisbane, which will be inserted in our issue of February 5th.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 1886.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

The "new" phrenology is not likely to gain a firm foothold at Dipton; thanks to the withering thrusts of an accomplished critic's spear. Mankind have a strange proneness to follow new 'isms, and the most outlandish theories command attention, and not unfrequently a contingent of supporters. This failing forms a somewhat remarkable trait in human character, when one reflects that a very trivial matter turns the balance in the case of questions of belief.

I was passing a Presbyterian Church the other day in company with a canny Scot, who had scrambled all the way to the North of England, and pointing to the Church referred to, I observed: "That's your Church, I suppose." "Na, na, was the reply; and shaking his head mysteriously, he added: "I dinna gang within that door; they dae things there that I dinna believe in." I experienced a slight shock of alarm, and thoughts of unpardonable sins quickly coursed through my cranium. My curiosity was thoroughly awakened, and preparing myself to hear the worst, I pressed the pious soul for an explanation. He beat about the bush a little, but seeing that there was no shaking me off, he observed: "Weel, ye see, they bapteeze bairns in there; an' I dinna believe o' that!" I breathed freely, and my pulse resumed its wonted motion. "You are, I presume, a member of the Baptist body," I remarked, thinking that this time, at least, I had hit the nail on the head. "Na, I'm no that either," said the fastidious Scot, "for I dinna believe in a' that they dae." He looked as if he didn't half like to answer questions; and the desire on my part to know which, in his opinion, was the perfect Church and congregation was crushed in the bud. Their number is legion who talk after this manner, and it certainly does seem a little curious that when people are so prone to find fault with the old they should be so willing to run after the new.

Pity the unemployed and the homeless in this dreadfully cold weather. Between the lack of good nourishing food on the one hand; and the merciless cold on the other, the lives of many must almost be about past human endurance. I remember hearing Mr Albert Grey, M.P., say that it was a good thing for working men to be able to turn their hands to anything; and to be in fact a sort of good all-round men. This, he asserted, was characteristic of the American people. There is perhaps a germ of truth in the assertion; but smart as our American cousins are said to be, times like the present would tax their ingenuity. Looking forward either to dull times, or to the evening of life—and there is, in truth, a striking similarity between the one and the other—the Scottish National bard expressed himself thus:

"When I canna drive a nag,
The Lord be thankit, I can beg."

That is more than suffering humanity dare do with impunity in these latter days. I observed in the columns of a Scottish contemporary last week-end, that an ironworker hailing from the north here, had wandered out of his latitude; and having been seen begging in the neighbourhood of the Grampians, was lodged in durance vile.

The strike among the shipyard men is about as unpromising as ever; and if a settlement is not arrived at before long, the iron and steel industries will feel the effects of it. The deliveries of material have in some cases been partially suspended already; and if no agreement is come to in course of next week or two, kindred industries will be dragged into the vortex. I come in personal contact with numbers of the strike hands during my peregrinations; but not a whisper do they breath about giving in—quite the contrary. The employers seem to be quite as determined; and steps are being taken to lighten the expenditure in the case of a prolonged struggle. The officials are being thinned out; and in some instances nearly the whole of the staff have received notice to go. This is regarded as a bad omen; and those conversant with such matters regard the movement as the prelude to a general lock-out. Some people seem to hing a deal on the issues of a meeting to be held in the end of the present week, and not a few are of opinion that if an understanding is not arrived at on the date fixed, the dispute will not be settled before the month of March. The shipbuilders have been busy during this week and part of the last; overhauling their books with the view of laying a statement of facts before the public, in reference to the wages earned by the men. They are, they say, prepared to disprove the statements made by the men on that point. This is a notable phase of the business. It is a good thing to court public opinion. The man who does that is pretty sure that his case is a good one.

I have heard it said that when Scotchmen settled down in this part of the country they discontinued the use of oatmeal; but those of my readers who scan the columns of the *Chronicle* will have observed that mention was made this week of a Scotch schoolmaster on the Tyne at Wallsend, who fills the bellies of four score hungry children every morning with oatmeal porridge and milk. The scheme is purely his own, and he pays all expenses himself. But the expense is only one thing, for the schoolmaster knows evidently how to make porridge, and he is abroad every morning by six o'clock, and stands over the porridge pot until his favourite breakfast boils for fifty minutes. Talk of philanthropy! Many there are who can give of their substance, and many thanks to them; but to jump out of one's bed in these frosty mornings, two hours before the dawn, to make breakfast for fourscore poor starving bairns, to whom he is in no way related, except by the broad ties of brotherhood and love, is a procedure that few men would dream of, much less put into practice. Mr Tocher—for, that is the gentleman's name—is a fine specimen of the schoolmaster of the old school. He is one of the few parish schoolmasters whom the School Board system did not drive from the field. He has, I believe, been head master for a number of years at the Board Schools, Wallsend, where the scholars number somewhere between 800 and 1,000. Mr Tocher has another curious project on foot with respect to oatmeal porridge—"A more excellent song than the other," but as the project has not yet been put into practice, I am not at liberty to disclose it, and, the more is the pity. I must, fosoooth, be a sorry hand at keeping a secret, for it costs me quite a struggle to drop the pen.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

There were no cases to be disposed of by Mr James Annandale, J.P., at the Consett Police Court on Monday.

THE AFFAIRS OF MR DONALD BAIN.—Yesterday (Thursday), at the Newcastle Bankruptcy Court, before Mr Registrar Daggett, the adjourned public examination of Donald Bain, draper, Consett and Newcastle, was held. After the previous examination was read over and signed by the debtor, the examination was formally closed.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH-WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.—The public meeting in connection with the above, as will be seen by our advertising columns, is to be held in the New Town Hall, Consett, to-morrow (Saturday) evening, and is to be addressed by Mr L. A. Atherley Jones, the newly-elected member for the Division, and other gentlemen, and we have no doubt will be numerously attended.

ACCIDENT FROM FOOTBALL. — On Tuesday se'nnight, Edwin Frederick, son of Mr F. Lace, formerly of Sherburn Terrace, Consett, received a blow on the leg whilst playing at football at West Kensington, which resulted in blood poisoning, and after lingering in great pain pain until Monday, death ensued therefrom. The deceased, who was very promising, was the grandson of Mr Thos. Elsdon, who recently died suddenly at Leadgate.

GOSPEL TEMPERANCE LECTURES.—During the week, the Rev. W. Spurgeon, of Stourbridge, has been conducting special services and delivering lectures in the various chapels in Consett. On Sunday morning and evening, the rev. gentleman preached before large congregations in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, while Mr T. Ryan, of Newcastle—at present staying at Shotley Bridge—occupied the pulpit in the afternoon.

THE WINTRY WEATHER.—On Saturday night and Sunday morning, the Consett district was visited by another snowstorm, which covered the ground to a depth of about six inches. The weather was intensely cold, a strong wind blowing, and the roads generally were exceedingly slippery. Slight showers fell until Wednesday night, when there was another storm, and in some parts it lay ankle deep. Yesterday (Thursday) additional snow descended, and the roads were in a very sloppish condition, rendering walking almost impossible. To day (Friday) the weather is comparatively mild to what we have been accustomed to during the week.

THE PUBLIC PARK SCHEME.—A special meeting of the Consett Local Board (as briefly stated in a portion of last week's issue) was held on Thursday se'nnight, under the presidency of Mr J. Collinson, the following members being present:—Messrs W. Shell, T. Dunne, Wm. Aynsley, J. Palliser, W. R. Taylor, H. Carss, and T. W. Welford (clerk).—The Consett Board having received from the Local Government Board a reply favourable to their entering upon the Park and Recreation Ground Scheme, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr Carss, and seconded by Mr Palliser, "That the Clerk be instructed to apply to the Consett Iron Company for a copy of the agreement relating to the Park Scheme and tracing of the plan for the use of the Board, they being unable to proceed further in the matter."—Mr Aynsley next moved, and Mr Dunne seconded, "That the Clerk be instructed, on receipt of the agreement and tracing, to examine the former in conjunction with Mr Booth, and summon a special meeting of the two Boards to ratify the agreement."—No further business was done.

BLACKHILL.

DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT.—In the Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside, on Monday night, the members of the St. Mary's (Roman Catholic) Amateur Dramatic Society gave another representation of the drama, in three acts, entitled "The Fairy Circle," succeeded by the amusing farce, "The Day after the Wedding." The performance was so successful a week previous, that it was again repeated before a large and appreciative audience.

BENFIELDSIDE STOCK AUCTION MART.—Messrs Nicholson and Murray had forward on Monday, 14 fat cattle, 125 fat sheep, 12 cows, 3 calves, 9 pigs, and a number of poultry. Prices:—Fat cattle, £11 17s 6d to £18; fat sheep, 25s to 69s 6d; pork pigs, 28s 6d to 50s; calves 15s to 26s 6d. Turnips, 27s per ton. Hay 5s per ton. Calving cows a slow trade. All other stock a fair good trade.—*Erratum*: In our last week's report we are sorry to state an error. It should have read "The two extraordinary grand bullocks from the Earl of Durham were both bought by Mr John Parker, Leadgate."

LEADGATE.

On Sunday morning, the Rev J. W. Mitchell (vicar), preached the funeral sermon, in St. Ives Church, Redwell Hills, bearing upon the recent death of Mr Thos. Elsdon, one of the oldest, best known, and most esteemed residents of Leadgate.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

St. Cuthbert's Church choir, Shotley Bridge, held their annual treat last Friday evening.

ST. CUTHBERT'S.—The Bishop of Pretoria intends to visit this district and give an address in St. Cuthbert's School, Benfieldside, on "Church work," on Thursday next, at 7·30 p.m. His Lordship receives practically no income, and works nobly in a diocese as large as France. The abandonment of the Transvaal caused great loss to the English Mission.

SWALWELL.

BAND OF HOPE.—A meeting in connection with the above was held in the Board School, Swalwell, on Monday evening, when an address was given by Mr R. Rutherford, of Benwell. Solos were given by Messrs Pogue and Penning, and Miss J. A. Best, and a dialogue by eight members entitled "Wanted a Ser... [illegible] Mr E. T. Spencer presided.

STANHOPE.

Violet Annie Slack, daughter of Thomas Slack, lime-burner, Crawleyside, near Stanhope, accidently fell into a tub of hot water on Saturday. The child received such injuries that death resulted on the following day.

A Dishonest Pigeon Fancier.—At Stanhope Town Hall on Friday, *Jacob Featherstone*, of Tow Law, who made a full confession when arrested, was convicted of tearing down George Hodgson's pigeon-house at Thornley and stealing three of the birds, which he afterwards "traded" with James March and John Nesbitt at Crook.—Prisoner was committed for a month, being unable to pay 20s and costs.

WOLSINGHAM.

Weardale District Highway Board.—The ordinary monthly meeting of this Board was held at Wolsingham—present, Mr Backhouse, J.P., in the chair, and Messrs Brown, Chapman, Currey, Herbert, Pattison, Reed, Snowball, Vart, and Weoler.—Cheques were drawn for main-road account, £45 10s 10d; district-roads, £58 17s.—Several Waywardens commented on the conduct of the new district auditor, who, in their opinion, attaches undue importance to his office.

Mechanics' Institute. — The polytechnic exhibition which was opened at Wolsingham last week is a pronounced success, and continues to draw crowded houses. The electric novelties sent by Mr Usher, Sunderland, consisting of an electric piano of 25 bells, medical coil, strength tester, &c., are now almost completed, and will be in use during the exhibition. In connection with the exhibition, a view of the moon and other planets can be seen through the Rev J. E. Espin's monster telescope.

WEARDALE.

St John's.—The annual concert and coffee supper of St John's Parish were held on Saturday in the Town Hall, and, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there was a large attendance and a successful entertainment. The Vicar (Rev R. Shepherd) presided, and the concert was well sustained by the Misses Shepherd, Miss Cruddas, Miss Blenkiron, Messrs Thompson, Williamson, and Cruddas. The tables were presided over by Mrs and Misses Shepherd, Mrs J. Jackson, Mrs J. Waugh, Mrs J. Vickers, and Miss M. Armstrong.

Disappearance of a Farmer. — Weardale is painfully concerned about the disappearance of Mr Wm. Reed, a well-to-do farmer at Newlandside. He was last seen at eleven o'clock on Tuesday night, leaving a public-house in Stanhope, and a little later was found lying on the road at Square Foot. He was seen to leave the west end of the village, and as part of his road lay by the river near Winch Bridge, it is believed he has been drowned. The river was swollen that night by a swift and powerful current, and has never since been at its normal level. Deceased was six feet in height, and forty-five years of age, with full, sandy beard. He had, as a member, been at the Highway Board meeting at Wolsingham on Tuesday. His family are experiencing the deepest distress, and all last Friday was occupied by search parties, who examined the river as far down as Witton, but without trace. Telegrams from Alston, where Mr Reed had some sheep, show that he has not been there. Search parties have been out, and the river was dragged from Witton to Stanhope without any definite result, except that a hat containing the name of Mr Reed had been picked up on the river bed near Harelaw, three and a half miles east of Stanhope. The hat was brought into Stanhope by Mr Robert Sisson, who at once took it up to Newlands. Search was continued along the River Wear on Saturday, extending to Bishop Auckland, without further result, and on Saturday evening Mr Sisson proceeded to Durham, but up to Monday morning there was no news of the missing farmer. Mr Reed was about 45 years of age, tall, had a full sandy beard, and was widely known, being an active member of the Stanhope Agricultural Society, and for many years a waywarden. The greatest sympathy is expressed for Mrs Reed and family (four children), who are naturally experiencing a painful suspense.

TOW LAW.

The annual dinner of the Tow Law and Thornley Association for the Prosecution of Felons is fixed for next week, when a good meeting is expected.

On Wednesday evening, the Good Templars of Tow Law held a musical and social evening in the Wesleyan School-room. The Rev E. Blair Allen gave an address.

A few more children's deaths have taken place in Tow Law since last week, but the measles epidemic is now seemingly going back, and it is hoped all the schools will be enabled to resume duties on Monday next.

At Tow Law snow fell heavily on Saturday night and Sunday. A heavy fall of snow took place on Wednesday night, and snow fell at intervals all day yesterday (Thursday). Travelling is difficult on the outlying roads.

Auction Mart.—The ordinary weekly sale was held at Tow Law, on Monday. Forward, 19 cows, £11 to £18 12s 6d; 10 fat beasts, £9 7s 6d to £21 2s 6d; 118 fat sheep, 20s to 43s. Also pony, poultry, and hay which made £4 per ton. There was a large company present. Trade ruled steady for fat stock; cows slightly inactive, though a shade better prices were obtained for good kinds.

Presbyterianism.—The annual congregational meeting of the Presbyterian Church at Tow Law, was held on Monday evening, the pastor (Rev H. Slade) presiding. Considering the depressed state of trade during 1885 the report on the spiritual and financial condition of the church was considered very satisfactory. New officers were elected for the year. Gratitude was expressed at the success of the bazaar held in the summer, by means of which an old debt was wiped off.

Sudden Death.—One more must be added to the several sudden deaths that have taken place at Tow Law during the last two weeks. On Monday morning, the wife of a miner named Colbert, residing in North Street, after seeing two of her sons off to work, dropped down and suddenly expired. Heart disease is the cause of death. Mrs Colbort, whose husband works at the Black Prince Colliery, had got up and seen her husband and two boys away to work, when she suddenly fell down and expired. She was interred in the New Cemetery on Wednesday, the Presbyterian minister officiating.

BLAYDON.

Mechanics' Institute.—On Thursday se'nnight Capt. W. Douglas gave in the Mechanics' Institute, Blaydon, a very interesting and instructive essay on "Arms," tracing the use of weapons from the most ancient times, when the sling and the javelin were used, up to the latest inventions. The essayist was listened to with great interest. A vote of thanks, moved by the vice-president, Mr. R. Carr, seconded by Mr. J. Jenkins, was unanimously carried. The chair was taken by the president, Mr. G. J. Ogilvie.

Blaydon Haughs Primitive Methodist Chapel.—On Wednesday se'nnight, a coffee supper was held in aid of the coming bazaar, on behalf of this place of worship. The tables were presided over by Mrs Wood, Mrs Phillips, Mrs Elliott, Mrs Blackburn, Mrs Bell, and Miss Phillips. After supper, an entertainment was given by the lady members of the society. The chair was taken by Mrs McKey, and solos and duets were given by Misses M. Bateman. A. Bateman, E. Robinson, M. Baggart, B. Ormston, Woods, Mrs and Master Armstrong; addresses by Mrs A. Elliott, Mrs Blackburn, and Mrs Forster. Harmoniumist, Mrs J. Biggin. A vote of thanks was moved by Mr William Paxton, who promised if the ladies would raise £20 by Good Friday, he would give either goods or money to the amount of £5.

Derwent Rifle Club.—On Saturday, the usual fortnightly competition, open to members of this club, took place at the range of the club, Bue Hills, Blaydon. The following were the winners: —Sergt. A. Forsyth, Priv. C. Forsyth, Colour-Sergt. J. Marley, Felling; Priv. J. M. Strafford, Hexham.

A Row in a Bar.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Tuesday, Edward Gray and James Douglass were charged with assaulting an old man named James Renwick, at the Station Hotel, Blaydon, on Saturday, the 2nd inst. Complainant stated that while in the long bar the defendant Douglass struck and kicked him on the leg, the other defendant afterwards coming and joining in the assault. The evidence for the defence was that complainant was the aggressor, and at the time was very drunk and excited. The case was dismissed, costs to be paid by complainant.

DIPTON.

Collierley School Board.—The monthly meeting took place at the Dipton Board Schools on Wednesday se'nnight, being presided over by Mr J. A. Curry (chairman). There were present Messrs Wm. Robson, C. Holmes, M. Martin, and the Clerk (Mr W. W. Thompson).—The Clerk explained that on the 20th October last, the Board issued a call for £164 15s 6d, and on the 20th January a call for a similar amount was made, representing a total of £339 11s 0d. There was due to the Public Works Loan Commissioners £240 13s 4d, and the present balance in the bank was only £86 11s 10d. On the October call £82 14s 8d had been paid; and on the present call (January 7th) £69 6s 10d; the whole amounting to £240 13s 4d. This shows that there were no funds in the bank to meet the current payments.—The Chairman and other members considered this a most unsatisfactory state of affairs, and expressed their surprise at the manner in which the Board were treated in regard to the payment of their precepts.—After discussing the matter, the Chairman and Mr Martin were deputed to wait upon the Assistant-Overseer and ascertain if any further money could not be paid into the bank; also to urge upon the overseers the desirability of attending to the payment of precepts, as the Board had no money in the bank to meet the present expenditure.—Regarding the unsatisfactory condition of the heating apparatus in the schools, Mr Rowell, of Newcastle, attended personally, and succeeded in testing the apparatus to the satisfaction of the members.—The Attendance Officer (Mr D. Mole) was requested to use his best endeavours in maintaining the heat up to its proper standard, and he promised to attend to this matter.—The Head Master (Mr H. Prevell) inquired what steps he should take in reference to the payment of the school fees of the children of the locked-out miners at the South Medomsley Colliery?—The Board directed the Master to allow the children to attend free at present, but the arrears would be debited against the parents, who would be asked to pay as soon as they were in a position to do so again.—The Board expressed themselves highly delighted with the way in which Mr Johnson Robson, of Blackhill, had whitewashed and cleaned the schools during the holidays.—The only other business was to sign the monthly cheques, after which the Board adjourned.

LANGLEY PARK.

The tenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Bishop of Durham's Special Church Building Fund was held at Durham on Wednesday, when it was resolved to make a grant of £15 to Langley Park (Esh) Parish.

Ball. — The members of the Langley Park Station Hotel Quadrille Party held their annual ball in the Station Hotel long-room, on Monday, Jan. 11th. The dance was presided over by Mr J. Clark and Mr G. Moss, M.C.'s. Dancing commenced at six o'clock and continued up to 8·30 p.m., when there was an interval of fifteen minutes for refreshments. The dance broke up at one a.m., the company spending a very pleasant evening. Each member escorted his partner home. Upwards of 30 couples took part in this seasonable pastime. The dance opened with "The Keel Row" country dance, and finished with "Sir Roger de Coverley."

Claim Against a Benefit Society. — On Tuesday, at the Durham County Court—before His Honour Judge Meynell—John Ainsley, miner, of Cornsay Colliery, sued Ralph Lidster, joiner, Langley Park; David Bugh, mason, Walnook Mill; and John George Crabb, 9, Swan Street, Newcastle, railway porter, the trustees, and Richard Jobling, miner, of Langley Park, treasurer of the Rose of Langley Lodge (669) of the Independent Order of United Oddfellows (Bolton Unity), for the sum of £7 14s, the amount of sick relief money alleged to be due to the plaintiff from the lodge between the 24th of July and the 24th of December, 1885, being 22 weeks' allowance at 7s per week, and which sum, it was alleged, had been improperly withheld from him.—Mr Oliver appeared for the plaintiff, and in the course of his opening statement produced the award of the arbitrators appointed by the plaintiff and the defendant, which award found that the lodge was justified in stopping plaintiff's sick allowance on the strength of medical certificates.—Plaintiff alleged that the money had been improperly withheld. An award of arbitrators who had been appointed by the parties concerned was produced, and this award ruled that the lodge was justified in stopping the sick allowance on the evidence of medical certificates that had been produced.—His Honour asked Mr Oliver to show him any power he had to set aside the award.—Mr Oliver could not do so, and consequently a verdict was entered for defendants.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

On Saturday morning, Mr John Anderson, who has been for many years head gamekeeper to Mr Lindsay Wood, of Southill, shot a large and beautiful specimen of the goosander in the Wear at Southwood, near Southill.

At a meeting of the ratepayers of Chester-le-Street, held on Tuesday night, a committee was appointed to confer with the engineer of the Consett Water Company as to the erection of fire-plugs in the village, and to collect funds to meet the expense of their erection.

On Tuesday night, the members of the Chester Moor Primitive Methodist Band of Hope efficiently rendered the temperance cantata, "The rescue of Harry Grey," in the Wesleyan School-room Chester-le-Street. Mr J. Brimey presided, and there was a capital attendance.

An Expensive Shot at a Dog.—At the Durham County Court on Tuesday, Mr Hay, draper, Chester-le-Street, brought an action against Wm. Clark to recover £5, the value of a sheet of plate glass, broken by him when throwing a bone at a dog belonging to him (plaintiff), which had made a predatory visit to the butcher's shop, defendant's employer, Mrs Usher, which is nearly opposite to that of Mr Hay. The dog, it appeared, had snatched half a breast of mutton, weighing 3½lbs., from Mrs Usher's block, and was half-way across the street with his prize, when Clark caught sight of him, and sent a large bone in pursuit of him. The dog dropped the bone, ran to the shelter of the window, which the bone fractured, and he then picked up the missile and made off.—Defendant alleged that the plaintiff had been warned of his dog's predatory propensities, but had taken no trouble to prevent him from thieving at Mrs Usher's, and plaintiff was thus, it was contended, contributory to the accident which had resulted.—His Honour found a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed, with payments to commence at once at 4s per month.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD.

Historical Lecture.—On Monday evening, the first of a series of historical lectures was delivered in the Library and Reading Room connected with Victoria Garesfield colliery, by Mr Jonathan Priestman, J.P., Shotley Bridge. There was a large and attentive audience, who expressed themselves highly delighted with the lecture. Mr Franks, manager, occupied the chair, and intimated that the lectures would be continued every fortnight, several gentlemen having volunteered their services.

WASKERLEY.

Death of a Noted Black-faced Ram.—That celebrated ram, "Glen of Ayre," the property of Mr J. Oliver, Burnhill, Waskerley, has been lost to the flock by having his neck broken when fighting with another ram of the same flock. "Glen of Ayre" was purchased by the owner at Ayre Ram Sales in the autumn of 1882 for the handsome sum of £14. He was bred by Mr James Craig, of Craig Darrick, Scotland, and whose lot of 40 rams on that occasion realised the magnificent sum of £500. The ram has been used in the flock four seasons, and has left behind him some of the best blood to be found in the North. We hear that his splendid head has been entrusted to Mr Tinkler, Blackhill. We believe the owner contemplates visiting the great Lothian Ram Sales at Edinburgh in autumn to procure another ram of the famous Scotch type.

CROOK.

Crook Circuit (Wesleyan) Sunday School Union.—The quarterly meeting of this union was held in the Wesleyan Schoolroom, Crook, on Tuesday evening. The chair was occupied by the Rev T. G. Mescrop, and the attendance was large. Reports from various schools in the district were read by the secretary (Mr H. Copeland), and were considered satisfactory.

WEST STANLEY.

Beamish Branch C.E.T.S.—A very enjoyable and successful meeting of the above society was held in the Stanley School-room, on Monday evening. After the usual opening by hymn and prayer, and a few remarks by the Rev L. M. Chesters, who was in the chair, Mr J. Robson caused a degree of amusement, which was rare, by a reading that made the audience stare, entitled "Betty goes skating," as his first share in a programme which pleased everyone there. Mr J. Lily then sang a touching ballad, "Poor little Joe," after which the audience were amused, and doubtless edified, by the home thrust conveyed in "The origin of scandal," which was well recited by little Miss Elizabeth Ramshaw. The choir next, under the able leadership of Mr R. Grundy, sang with spirit, in excellent time, and with vocal organs braced by the clear, frosty air, the stirring melody, "God made all nature free." Mr J. Cummings now kept the close attention of all whilst he recited "Bingen on the Rhine." Mr J. Robson followed, causing much laughter, by reciting "The best of wives."—The touching song, "Father, dear father, come," was then sweetly and affectingly sung as a duet by Misses A. Dixon and J. Robson. And now an unexpected pleasure was experienced by those present in a very practical address full of good advice given by Mr James Gilchrist, who, being in Stanley, had come into the meeting. The address very appropriately carried on the spirit of the melody, "Work and win," which had just been given by the choir. After another recitation from Miss E. Ramshaw, "The drunkard's farewell," and a second song by Mr Lily, "Lonely is the house since mother's gone," the meeting, a very pleasurable one, was closed in the usual way. Six fresh pledges were taken; and after the close of the public meeting, a service was held for initiating these persons, together with those who had signed the pledge at the last fortnightly meeting, thus completing their membership.

PELTON.

Police Items.—At the Chester-le-Street Petty Sessions, last week, *Christopher Stones* was charged with commiting a breach of the peace by fighting at Pelton, on the 26th ult.—Defendant was bound over to keep the peace in the sum of £5 for three months.——*John Nelson* was charged with a like offence at Pelton, on the 26th ult.—Defendant was also bound over to keep the peace in the sum of £5 for three months.——*William Nicholson* and *Hutchinson Wyld* were charged with trespassing on the farm of Mr W. R. Rotherferd, at Pelton, on the 27th Dec., and causing damage to grass.—P.C. Crabb proved the case, which was corroborated by Mr Rotherford's servant.—Fined 6d costs and 1d damage.

Holy Trinity Church.—The senior scholars of the Sunday-school, Pelton, numbering 250, were entertained by a Marionette show, on Jan. 9th. Prizes were presented by Mrs Wilkins, and three cheers were given for Major and Mrs Joicey, Urpeth Lodge, who provided the entertainment; for the Vicar and Mrs Wilkins.—On Saturday, 10th, the junior children, who attended the Mission School, Pelton Fell, had their treat and Christmas tree. Prizes were presented by "Father Christmas" (Rev H. E. Greenhow, curate).—On Saturday, 16th, the Perkinsville scholars and the Pelton juniors had their treat in Pelton School, when each child received a present. The scholars (who number 500) were given a bun and an orange.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.

Literary and Debating Society.—On Monday evening, a very interesting lecture on "Insects and flowers," illustrated by magic-lantern slides, was delivered in the Thorp Schools, Ryton, by Mr George Sisson, jun., of Newcastle. Mr Jas. A. McIntyre presided, and there was a good attendance. At the close of the meeting, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr Sisson for his very instructive lecture, and to Mr Hubert Laws for his skilful manipulation of the lantern.

Marriage of Mr J. B. Simpson.—The nuptials were celebrated on Thursday se'nnight of Mrs Atkinson, widow of the late Mr Buddle Atkinson, R.A., of Woolley Grange, and Mr J. B. Simpson, mining engineer, of Ryton. The marriage ceremony took place at Christ Church, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, in the presence of a large number of friends. Mr F. Simpson, son of the bridegroom, acted as best man, and the bride was given away by her son, Mr F. Buddle Atkinson, of the 5th Lancers. There were no bridesmaids. The bride wore a petticoat of heliotrope satin, covered with Brussels point lace, with a plush train and bonnet *en suite*. Her ornaments included diamond riviere ear-rings, and a diamond bangle, the gift of the bridegroom.

Good Templar Entertainment at Ryton.—On Tuesday evening, an entertainment in connection with the I.O.G.T. Ryton's Hope Lodge was given in the Congregational School-Room, Barmoor, Ryton, by the members of the Church of England Total Abstinence Society, Winlaton.—Mr Simpson occupied the chair, and there was a large and appreciative audience.—Songs were rendered by Mr J. W. Daniels, Mr G. Atkinson, Mr G. R. Burn, and Miss J. Burn; readings were given by Mr J. W. Daniels, and Mr G. R. Burn; and glees by the choir.—Mr J. W. Daniels was conductor, and Mr G. R. Burn organist.

DURHAM.

Dispute at Brancepeth Colliery.—For some considerable time, much dissatisfaction has existed at the New Pit, Brancepeth Colliery, Willington, among the union men, owing, it is stated, to the employment at the colliery of two hewers, named Pearse and Pattinson, who are not members of the union, and they have refused to ride up and down with them. The particulars of a meeting held by the men on Monday have not transpired, but when on Tuesday, after a portion of the fore-shift men had descended, Pattinson made his appearance, those on the pit heap, to the number of 31, drew to one side, and although they were requested by the manager, Mr Grieves, to go down, they refused until Pattinson had done so, and were therefore sent home. A deputation of the men was afterwards despatched to Durham, to lay the matter before the agents there. The colliery employs about 230 hewers. On Wednesday, Messrs Jamieson and House, of the Durham Miners' Association, attended at the Colliery and had an interview with the manager. Afterwards they were present at a crowded meeting of the men. Here an arrangement was come to, and work will proceed as usual at the colliery.

A Hay Dispute.—At the Durham County Court on Monday—before Mr E. J. Meynell, judge—John Urwin, of Sniperley Farm, sued John Sowerby, living at Stone Bridge, Neville's Cross, for £2 for half a ton of hay sold in September last. Defendant went to plaintiff's farm and inspected some hay, agreeing to take half-a-ton as a sample. A month later he complained that the hay was not good, but he had got through the greater part of it, the soldiers having been in the town.—Defendant alleged that when he went to plaintiff's farm he said the hay did not suit him, but he would take a little of a certain stack. Plaintiff, however, urged him to take from another stack, saying he would warrant it to be better than the other. Urwin said he might take half-a-ton and try it. He did so, and afterwards sold part of the half-ton, but the purchaser returned it to him on account of the bad quality. Eventually he sold part of it for about a quarter of the price he had paid.—Witnesses were called who said the hay was only fit for bedding. Some of them had purchased a small quantity, and admitted they had got through it on account of the soldiers being billetted in the town.—His Honour held that the half-ton had been taken as a sample, and no breach of warranty was proved.—Verdict, therefore, for plaintiff.

Swine Fever in Durham.—On Wednesday, a special meeting of the Durham Town Council was held in the Mayor's Chamber for the purpose of forming a committee in connection with the working of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act. The Mayor (Councillor Holdsworth) presided. On the motion of Alderman Blackett, seconded by Alderman Laidler, a committee, consisting of the Mayor, Alderman Laidler, and Alderman Herbert Robson, was appointed for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Act of 1878.—At the Durham County Police Court, on Wednesday, Joseph Munsey was charged under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act with removing a pig from the city of Durham to Witton Gilbert, contrary to the regulations of the County Executive Committee.—Fined 10s and costs.

CONSETT & DISTRICT PARLIAMENTARY DEBATING SOCIETY.

A SPECIAL DEBATE on Tuesday night. Subject—"The Taxation of Bachelors." The Speaker will take the Chair at 7·30. Admission for Visitors, 3d. The proceeds will be devoted to the relieving of distress in the district. 625v

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

An Intelligent Fowl.—Mr Robert Foster, Clavering Place, Annfield Plain, had a fine hen missing for three weeks. He had given her up as being lost altogether, but to his astonishment the hen was found in an old unused wood building, sitting on fifteen eggs. She has brought out eleven fine chickens, all doing well. At present the weather is most intensely cold, and not at all favourable for rearing chickens.

Primitive Methodist Chapel.—On Sunday, sermons were preached in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Annfield Plain, in the morning and night by Mr Daniel Reed, of Leadgate. His subject in the morning was "God's jewels;" and at night, "Enoch's translation." The services throughout were characterised with the Divine influence. A collection was taken at the evening service on behalf of the circuit fund.—On Monday night, the Rev J. Waite, Stanley, preached an impressive discourse, after which a meeting was held to arrange for a special visit of the Rev Danzy Sheen, Sunderland (late of London), who has offered to preach and lecture on some week-day shortly.

Presentation to a Colliery Overman.—The workmen employed at the South Derwent Willie Colliery have a Sick and Accident Fund established among themselves, and when any of its members are off work by reason of sickness or accident such member receives from the said fund five shillings per week. This fund has been established two years, and the overman (Mr W. Eltringham) has, during the time this fund has been in existence, kept the men's contributions off at the office, and for this act of kindness the workmen thought they could not allow his services to go unacknowledged; accordingly on Wednesday se'nnight a meeting of the workmen was held at the house of Mr Miles Handy, innkeeper, Catchgate, and Mr Eltringham was invited to attend.—Mr Samuel Parlett, on behalf of the members of the Sick Fund, said they had met for the purpose of presenting Mr Eltringham with a brown marble timepiece, for his past and present services in their behalf, and he hoped that the present good feeling and pleasantness would still continue in the future as it had done in the past between him and the workmen.—Mr Eltringham kindly thanked all present for the splendid gift, and expressed himself ready at all times to assist in anything that he could accomplish on their behalf at all times, as he considered it a duty one towards another in making life pleasant here below.

WHITE-LE-HEAD.

Entertainment. — The Primitive Methodist Band of Hope gave one of their popular entertainments in the chapel on Saturday evening, when, despite the falling and drifting snow, a good company assembled—Rev J. Gill (circuit minister) in the chair. The subjoined programme was rendered in a higly creditable manner, and evoked the most hearty applause. The performance of Mr Lawson, violinist, Marley Hill, and one of his pupils, commanding special notice. Programme: —Song, "Jessie's dream," Miss Gill; recitation, "The last of the flock," Mr F. Haughan; instrumental, "Operatic piece," Mr Lawson and pupil; solo, "He will hide me," Mr R. Kieler; recitation, "The drunken husband," Miss Kieler; solo, "The cottage by the sea," Mr R. Ramsey; instrumental, violin solo, Mr Lawson; recitation, "The drunken woman," Mr F. Haughan; song, "The sparrow on the tiles," Mr F. Pyle; song, "Maggie's secret," Miss Gill; violin solo, "Blue bells of Scotland," Mr Lawson; violin solo, "Huntsman's chorus," Mr Lawson.

LANCHESTER.

The treasurer of the Durham County Hospital has received £5 8s from the Grand Jury of Assize, per Mr M. Kearney, J.P., of The Ford.

The Magistrates and the Police Court.—Yesterday (Thursday) the usual fortnightly Petty Sessions were held at Lanchester. At the time appointed for the opening of the Court—11 a.m.—no magistrates were in attendance. Messengers were despatched in all directions, and at 11·30 Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith arrived, soon afterwards followed by the Rev J. P. De Pledge, when the ordinary business was transacted. This irregularity may be accounted for by the fact that in cold weather, it is little better than sitting in an exposed barn in the chilly atmosphere pervading the Court-room, and once more the Bench loudly complained of the coldness and dampness of the place. A month ago this matter was laid before Mr Crozier, but the notification has apparently been overlooked by that official.

MEDOMSLEY.

School Board.—The monthly meeting was held in the Board-room, at Medomsley, last (Thursday) night—Mr W. H. Hedley presiding. There were also present: Rev Wm. Cockin, Messrs J. H. Morris, W. Robinson, W. Cook, and W. Walton.—The report of the Attendance Officer (Mr Gibson) stated that, considering the stormy weather, the attendance might be considered fairly good. As requested by the Board at a previous meeting, he begged to submit in writing some suggestions which for some time back had been shaping themselves in his mind, for the improvement of attendance.—As the suggestions were somewhat lengthy, it was thought advisable to supply each member with a copy, and consider them at the next meeting.—The Westwood Schoolmaster's report showed that the average attendance for the last month to be 144·4. The repairs ordered by the Board, owing to the bursting of a water pipe, had been attended to by Mr J. Smith, plumber, Consett, but the ceiling and walls had also been damaged by the pipe, and he asked to have them attended to likewise.—Proposed by Mr Hedley, and seconded by Mr Cook, that Messrs Walton, Robinson, and Morris inspect the same and report to the Board.—In June last, a request from Mr Palliser, headmaster of Westwood school, was submitted to the Board asking for a revision of his salary, owing to some of the children of the mixed school having been transferred to the infant department, when it was agreed by the Board to let the matter stand over until the report of the Government Inspector had been received. The report being now before them, they found that 85 per cent. had passed the inspection, that being an increase on the previous year, and would to a large extent make up for the deficiency caused by the transfer.—After some discussion, it was proposed by Mr Walton, and seconded by Mr Robinson, that Mr Palliser's application for a revision of his salary owing to transfer of scholars having been considered, there be no alteration.—Cheques were signed for various amounts.—There was no other business.

BURNHOPE.

Primitive Methodism.—An entertainment was held in the School-room, Burnhope, on Saturday night last, by the Annfield Plain Primitive Methodist Sunday-school Band of Hope, when songs, recitations, readings, and dialogues were gone through in a way, which reflected great credit upon the officials. The following took part in the programme:—Messrs Jos. Bainbridge, Geo. Bainbridge, J. Iceton, R. Pearson, J. Carr, H. Herdman, J. Dunn. Also an address bearing on Bands of Hope and temperance societies was given by Mr P. Reay. Mr J. Robinson presided at the harmonium. Mr T. Pearson, conductor, occupied the chair. A collection was taken on behalf of the funds of the temperance society recently commenced in this place. Votes of thanks to the entertainers brought a most pleasant and interesting meeting to a close.

QUEBEC.

Child Accidentally Scalded.—On Saturday afternoon, Mr Graham, coroner, held an inquest at the house of Mr Rd. Wall, Hamsteels New Inn, touching the death of John Edward Laing, aged three years, who expired on the 14th inst. from injuries received. The child was scalded on the 2nd January by upsetting a pan containing boiling water over itself. The skin was so badly scorched that inflamation set in a few days afterwards. During the 12 days the child lingered, Dr James Kirkland was in attendance.—The verdict was "Accidentally scalded."

WITTON GILBERT.

At Durham County Police Court, on Wednesday, *Charles Harrison* was charged with assaulting A. E. Wilkinson, aged about 12 years, at Witton Gilbert, and was fined £1 and costs.

PRUDHOE.

Free Church Circuit Sunday School Union.—On Saturday a conference of this union was held at Prudhoe, representatives from Mickley Square, Wylam, and Barlow being present. In the evening a public meeting was held in the chapel, presided over by the Rev. F. Raine, circuit minister. Readings, recitations, and songs were given by several of the representatives, and the choir, under the leadership of Mr. J. Leathard, gave selections of music. After setting forth the claims of the Sunday school, the Chairman strongly urged the importance of forming a "Band of Mercy" in connection with the schools in the district. Major Coulson, of Blenkinsop Castle, took a deep interest in this good work, and organised a great demonstration last summer, when he (the chairman) had the honour of marshalling the Hexham detachment, and the whole affair had proved a great success.

Conservatism at Prudhoe.—On Saturday night the committee of the Prudhoe and Mickley Conservative Association held a dinner in the School at Low Prudhoe. The room was suitably decorated for the occasion. About forty sat down to dinner, among the guests being Mr N. G. Clayton, and Messrs Lockhart and Batey. The President of the Association, Mr Matthew Liddell, occupied the chair. The toast of the evening, "Success to the Conservative cause," coupled with the name of Sir M. W. Ridley (proposed by the chairman), met with loud and continued cheering, again and again renewed, and was drunk with musical honours. Mr Clayton replied in a speech, which was frequently interrupted by bursts of applause. Other speeches followed.

Weardale and Shildon Waterworks Company.—On Tuesday, the report of this company for last year was issued. It states that during 1885 the net revenue account was £18,020 15s 4d, including £1,242 0s 8d brought forward from December 31st, 1884. Deducting the interim dividend paid August 5th, 1885, amounting to £7,544 19s 9d, and income tax, £446 17s 6d, there remained an undivided profit of £10,028 18s 1d. The directors recommend the payment on the 5th February, of the following dividends, clear of income tax. 1. A dividend of 2s 3d per share, being at the guaranteed rate of 4½ per cent. per annum on 3,511 shares, £5 paid, October, 1875, absorbing £394 19s 9d. 2. A dividend of 10s per share, being at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, and making an average dividend for the year of £3 12s 6d per cent. per annum, on the 17,600 fully paid shares of the company, absorbing £8,800, making altogether £9,194 19s 9d, and leaving to be carried forward an undivided profit of £833 18s 4d. The resident engineer reports that the works of the company have been efficiently maintained during the past year, and that a constant and pure supply of water has been given throughout the district. Considerable extensions of the company's pipes have been made, by which water is being supplied to 533 extra houses, situated principally at Wolsingham, Evenwood, Pittington, and Canny Hill, near Bishop Auckland. The directors retiring this year are Messrs David Dale, W. C. Stobart, and Henry Fell Pease, M.P., who are eligible for re-election. The retiring auditor is Mr Edward Towns, who is eligible for re-election.

The Wellington Caves.—These, which occupy a leading place among the natural wonders of New South Wales, have always had a large amount of interest attached to them, not only on account of their natural beauty and peculiarity, but because of the strange remains of a bygone time that every exploration of their depths brings to light. Remains of men have been found there, and strange tools and weapons; grotesque drawings, indicating a poetic conception and stirring times, tell of a people who have passed away as entirely as has the time in which they lived. Save the deeply graven lines on the face of the rock, the strange and petrified forms of tools and utensils for household use, the footprint of ages ago firmly fixed in a clay that has long since turned into rock, no record remains of the people or the period when the Wellington Caves were places of common resort, either for purposes of security or comfort.

Tobacco and Eyesight.— Dr. W. F. Coleman read a paper before the Chicago Medical Society recently in which he declared that he knew of no more constant effect of the use of tobacco than more or less impairment of vision known as amblyopia. The use of tobacco was so commonly associated with the use of liquor that it was a question with many whether not alcohol was not the chief or only causative. In England the belief among surgeons was that tobacco was the more frequent cause of amblyopia, while in America alcohol was considered the primative agent. The speaker declared that most of the text-books supported the idea that the use of tobacco caused impairment of the sight. Smokers were the more frequent sufferers, especially the smokers of pipes and cigarettes. In the course of his practice he had come in contact with many persons suffering from various defects of sight who smoked but did not drink. Smoking often caused colour blindness. Such defects were cured by abandoning the use of tobacco, and, if need be, taking small doses of strychnine.

Cook-shops in Persia.—Cook-shops abound in every large town in Persia. Sheep are roasted whole in ovens, and sold hot by the slice. The sheep's heads and feet are boiled separately, and their preparation and sale is a trade in itself. But the edible most in favour among all classes is the *kabab*. One variety is made from minced mutton, which is chopped with a few onions into a paste fine as sausage-meat, carefully moulded over a skewer, toasted over a fierce charcoal fire, and sold and eaten hot. This is the *kabab* of the bazaar, the delicacy of the lower classes. At the dinner-hour (sunset) and at the breakfast-hour (noon) crowds surround the shops of the *kabab*-sellers. Each man carries his bread, which is usually a flexible loaf two feet long, a foot wide, and half an inch thick. The customer wraps his *kababs*, hot from the fire, in his bread, and either sits down and eats it then and there, or takes the meal home to his family.

Thinking and Doing.—Nothing will so effectually solve doubts, relieve suspense, and remove uncertainty as a habit of promptly performing the nearest duty. Much of the hesitation and preplexity which hinder advancement and confuse men's lives comes from simply thinking, when they ought to be doing. Thought and action should never be separated. If action is often hasty and ill-judged for want of thought, thought is often vague and abortive for want of action. Men pause and speculate about what may or may not happen; they wonder what they ought to do or can do in certain contingencies, and no light reveals the one or the other; on the contrary, they become more and more doubtful and perplexed. Meanwhile the first steps are still untrodden that would have led to others. They have been standing at the foot of the ladder, looking perhaps eagerly to the top, and marvelling how to reach so high a point; while the lowest rounds, so close to their feet and so easy to ascend, have been quite neglected. The nearest duty, when performed, sheds a light revealing the next, and chasing away the shadows of doubt and uncertainty which have hindered onward progress.

The Bacteria Scare.—From time to time some new hygenic scare is invented, reigns, and dies, and we are happy until some pessimistic scare-hunting sanitarian invents a new one. Some hobby-riders will feel inclined to kill M. de Parville when they read his article in the *Journal des Debats*. If we listen to him, bacteria will soon be useless as a scare. The proportion of bacteria in a cubic metre of atmospheric air is, according to M. de Parville, 0·6 sea-air, one in the air of high mountains, sixty in the principal cabin of a ship at sea, two hundred on the top of the Pantheon, three hundred and sixty in the Rue de Rivoli, six thousand in the Paris sewers, thirty-six thousand in old Paris houses, forty thousand in the new hospital of the Hotel Dieu, and seventy-nine thousand in the old hospital of the Pitie. In Ryder Street, St. James's, a cubic metre of air contains only two hundred and forty bacteria, whereas in the Rue de Riveli the same quantity of air contains three hundred and sixty. M. de Parville says the superiority of London air, as compared with the air of Paris, is shown not only by its containing fewer bacteria, but also by the rate of mortality being smaller. The greater purity or lesser impurity of the air of London is accounted for by London being nearer than Paris to the sea, by its covering a greater extent of ground in proportion to the population, and by its houses being lower.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament was opened yesterday (Thursday) by Her Majesty in person. The debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was concluded in the House of Lords, the chief speakers being Earl Granville and Lord Salisbury. In the House of Commons, Mr Gladstone, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Mr Albert Grey, and several of the Irish members spoke, and one of the latter was called to order.

ALLEGED INTIMIDATION AT SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COLLIERY.

DISMISSAL OF THE CASE.

At the Lanchester Petty Sessions yesterday (Thursday)—before the Rev J. P. De Pledge (in the chair) and Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq.—*William Cunningham*, one of the strike hands at South Medomsley, was summoned for having unlawfully intimidated Edward Jordan, a brakesman now employed at the pit, on the 18th inst. Mr T. W. Welford, jun., Consett, conducted the prosecution.

Mr Patterson attended on behalf of the Durham Miners' Association, and applied to the Bench for an adjournment of the case, on the ground that all the barristers were engaged that day at the Assizes at Durham, consequently they would like to consult with and obtain the services of a solicitor before the case proceeded.

Mr Welford, for the Owners, strongly pressed for the case to be gone into that day, inasmuch as they had brought all their witnesses at considerable trouble and expense.

Mr Patterson agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the Bench to decide. Defendant could follow whichever course he thought proper, but he would strongly advise him to let the case be tried by a jury.

The Chairman: I shall be glad if the case goes before a jury, as it will relieve the magistrates of a grave responsibility.

Mr Granger (Magistrates' Clerk) said the real point at issue was whether the language used by the defendant could be construed into a charge of intimidation.

Ultimately, it was agreed to proceed with the investigation of the case.

Mr Welford opened by briefly narrating the facts, which he would prove by various witnesses, and he trusted the Bench would deal with the defendant in a proper manner.

Complainant was called, and stated he was a brakesman, one of the new hands employed at the colliery. There had been a strike there. On Monday morning, about 8·30, defendant came to him in the fire-holes, and said, "What are you working here for? Do you know that you are doing wrong? You have no right to be here, when the other men left off working last Thursday. You could not do better than go away. When they caught me on the highroad they would knock my b—— head off and kill me, if I worked there after that day. This will be last time I will warn you." The engineman thereupon came to him and took him away. He was afraid of his life, and was forced to go to the police.

The Chairman: Are you afraid now?—Complainant: Yes, I am afraid yet.

Are you still working there?—Yes, sir.

Mr Taylor Smith: You have to be protected by the police, I believe?—Yes.

The Chairman: Have you to be led home by the police every time you go to work?—Yes, sir. The police come to call us up at five o'clock every morning and protect us on the road to the colliery, on account of these men—defendant and his mates.

You are quite sure that Cunningham is one of them?—Yes, he is.

By Cunningham: Did I say I would knock your b—— head off?—You said you would get someone else to do it.

Defendant: I had occasion to go to the holes, and never spoke to the man. (To complainant): Did I ever threaten to kill you?—You did not say you would kill me—you would get men to knock my b—— head off.

Did I ask you to come from your work?—Yes; you said that I was doing wrong to work there.

Defendant (indignantly): I never said any such thing.

The Chairman: No, no. You can make your statement afterwards. Have you any further questions?

Complainant: You said, "This is the last day I will warn you."

Defendant: I hadn't a great lot of time, because I was only in the "holes" a few minutes. I never threatened him at all.

Joseph Bowman, an engineman, another of the fresh hands, remembered a man conversing with complainant in the fire-holes. He could see that they were talking about something, but he did not distinctly hear what was said. Witness had reasons for going into the fire-holes, and he called the fireman away. The man was a stranger to him. On reaching the engine-house, he enquired, "Who was that talking to you, Jordan?"

The Chairman: Was the defendant present?—No, your worships.

The Chairman: Then we cannot hear what passed between you.

P.C. Neesam, of Consett, at present temporarily stationed at South Medomsley, deposed that Cunningham made a statement to him, when he asked him if he had been threatening a man down in the fire-holes? His reply was "No," and he denied ever being down in the fire-holes; but subsequently confessed that he had been there.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Defendant explained that he lived on the premises, about 30 yards from the fire-holes, and he had always been acustomed to get his coals from there, whether the pit was working or not, and he had never been stopped. On the morning in question, he went for some coals, as usual, and just spoke to the man. He asked Jordan if he did not think it was wrong for him to work there? Complainant rejoined, "No; it was a non-Union colliery." He (Cunningham) stated that he knew it was, and having related the circumstances of the case, mentioning that the men were done at the pit on the previous Thursday, he told Jordan that it was owing to such conduct that working men were deprived of their rights. Just then, another man came up, and pushing him to one side took the complainant away. He stoutly denied that he ever said to P.C. Neesam that he had never been down to the fire-holes. He had never been stopped from going there. He knew nothing more about the case.

The Chairman, having consulted a few moments with his colleague, observed that the Bench did not think there was any intention on the part of the defendant to intimidate the man—(Defendant: "I never did so")—at least, this theory was not supported by the witnesses called; and therefore they did not intend to convict in this case. At the same time, they would advise the miners, as far as they possibly could, to let the men perform their own acts without let or hinderance. They ought to allow freedom and liberty to everyone. If the men themselves did not choose to work, they had no right to prevent other people from doing so. He (the Chairman) did not know the exact merits of the dispute, either one way or the other. He thought it a strange thing, however, that persons could not enter into contracts for performing work without being intimidated. These were matters which he submitted to their own consideration; but he would remind them that if any similar cases were proved against the miners, they would not be so leniently dealt with, inasmuch as the law particularly guarded men who desired to gain an honest livelihood, from being subjected to intimidation, and imposed heavy punishments. The case would be dismissed.

Mr Patterson thanked their worships, and left the Court, accompanied by a number of strike hands, who had travelled on foot, despite the wretched weather, all the way from Dipton to Lanchester to hear the trial. The result seemed to be received with feelings of surprise.

On Wednesday night, the Tanfield Moor Lodge held a meeting, and after hearing the cause of the unhappy dispute at South Medomsley Colliery, resolved to forward £5 to the locked-out [illegible]

[illegible] 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

LADIES' COLUMN.

The opening of the Winter Exhibition of pictures at the Royal Academy and at the Grosvenor Gallery marks in London the commencement of a new season when the leave-takings of the Old Year are over and done with, and artists and patrons make a fresh start.

With respect to the Grosvenor Gallery, I must correct an error in last week's letter in which I ascribed to Miss Helen Zimmern the compilation of the catalogue of Sir John Millais' pictures. My informant had confused two exhibitions, both located in Bond-street, one open, one in preparation for opening. Miss Zimmern is writing a monogram on Sir John Millais for Messrs. Goupil, Brisson, Valadon, and Co.; hence the mistake. The Grosvenor Gallery catalogue is by Mr. Stephens, the art critic of the *Athenæum*, who also wrote last year's catalogue of the Gainsborough pictures. With all due deference to such a learned gentleman, he is weak in his nursery rhymes. We are all acquainted with that mythical young person, Miss Muffet, who sat on a tuffet, eating of curds and whey. Mr. Stephens has it that—

> A spider came by,
> Made Miss Muffett cry,
> And frightened Miss Muffett away.

Now, this is a distortion of the original text against which every nursery in the land ought to protest. Was it not that—

> There came a little spider
> And sat down beside her,
> And frightened Miss Muffet away?

Perhaps the amendment is in accordance with the intentions of the artist, who has placed the spider rather at the young lady's back upon the bushes, and not alongside of her. The exhibition is interesting equally to those who have lived within artistic circles during the last 30 years, taking note of the phases through which art has passed, and to those who are not old enough to remember the pre-Raphaelite movement in art, or know aught of it except by name. There is great moral courage in an artist who allows his youthful works—call them indiscretions if you will—to appear upon the walls with later matured pictures—portraits, landscapes, and *genre* subjects. The pre-Raphaelite movement 30 years and more ago was somewhat akin to the æsthetic movement of a quarter of a century later. Some young men in the schools of the Royal Academy rebelled against the conventionalism of the art canons, which they were bound to obey. If the mutineers were rather crude and eccentric in giving expression to the faith that was in them, it was yet faith, and faith strong enough to walk by. Honest work, done with a genuine motive, regardless of self-seeking, must be always struggling towards the light. The colouring of Sir John Millais' earlier pictures would alone have raised an outcry thirty years ago, when neither in French studios nor in England was there any individuality, merely a decent respectable following of the masters of a preceding period. Only one of the old pre-Raphaelite brethren visited the Exhibition on the day of the private view—Mr. Holman Hunt, who has just recovered from a severe illness. Mr. Burne-Jones never disturbs his equanimity by going into crowds. Dante Gabriel Rossetti is dead. Of Sir John Millais it may be said that he has lived through that early phase of thought, become a fashionable portrait-painter, and has been recently created a baronet. No one who only knows Millais' pictures on the walls of the Royal Academy, hemmed in by others with which they are out of harmony, can imagine how great the pleasure is of seeing them again given a reasonable space upon a wall with no false note from neighbouring canvases to jar upon the harmony.

Quite a different collection is that at the Royal Academy of works by deceased masters. A whole room hung with water-colours by Turner will draw many visitors. Readers of Ruskin's works are familiar with his description and eulogium of some of the drawings, but which, being private property, were inaccessible to students. An opportunity such as this exhibition affords is not likely to occur again in the lifetime of this generation, so it ought to be taken advantage of. The feature of this year is the loan collection of pictures by Edward Wright, of Derby, who was born in 1734, the same year as Romney, and was 11 years younger than Sir Joshua Reynolds. From 1751, when he was sent, as young Reynolds had been before him, to study under Hudson, the portrait-painter, Wright worked industriously until his death in 1797. The pictures exhibited are probably but a very small selection from his works. The result of bringing together even a few of the works of a deceased artist is to draw public attention to his name and fame, and private collectors who have bought or inherited pictures begin to look carefully at their galleries; and many pictures long lost to sight are thus brought into notice. Besides Wright's pictures we have yet one or two more by Romney, several by Reynolds, Constable, Kneller, Lawrence, Gainsborough, Morland, Stothard, and others of the English school; by Cuyp, Van Eyck, Hobbema, Holbein, Jansen, Mabuse, Ostade, Paul Potter, Rembrandt, Rubens, Ruysdael, Snyders, Wouverman, Wynants, of the Flemish and Dutch schools; by Bartolommeo, Paris Bordone, Laudro Botticelli, Claude Lorraine, Correggio, Giorgione, Guido, Raphael, Salvator Rosa, Andrea del Sarto, Tintoretti, Titian, Lionardi da Vinci, and artists of different periods of Italian art, all gems, rich in suggestiveness, and wonderful in technique.

The two private views, one at the Grosvenor Gallery and the other at the Royal Academy, introduced to our dazzled eyes a great display of fine toilettes by the lady visitors. No one looking round on the rich, soft, perishable plush, the costly velvets, the magnificent brocades, would have supposed that the date was January, and that a cold, damp fog, so dense as almost to amount to drizzle, prevailed out of doors. It is one of those curious contradictions in our social system that though the picture shows occur at midwinter, we see the first indications of the spring fashions in the ladies' dresses. These plush mantles, for instance, will not come out, unless for carriage wear, until March. In the meantime our friends will take their walks abroad fur wrapped up to their very chins, as suits the season.

There is no more charming trimming for a dress or mantle, than fur, for it looks well and feels comfortable. But fur has its days of fashion like all other details of our dresses. One kind is in favour one year, and goes almost out of sight the next. A few years ago bear, skunk, and wolverine, with even monkey and lynx and other coarser furs, were bought eagerly at prices rather in excess of their real value. Of these only skunk is likely to be prized next season. Already the bear trimming has been turned into long boas, and others have disappeared altogether. Beaver and otter, always, of course, including sable, for those who can afford it, are this winter the favourite furs. What a vast number of these poor little animals must have been slaughtered to supply the London market only! The boa can so easily be taken off and carried like its original, the boa constrictor, round the arm, that it has much to recommend it. Doctors are protesting loudly against the fur capes which only reach to the waist and leave even that part of the figure but poorly protected. As to the arms, the prevalence of rheumatism, even among very young people, can only be ascribed to the absence of proper covering upon the arms. For pianists fur capes are a delusion and a snare. Of the executant of the present day great things are expected in command of the instrument. The technical difficulties to be overcome are such as our grandmothers never even dreamed of, and to maintain her fingers in a proper state of efficiency the greatest care is required in preservation of her strength. Piano cramp is by no means unusual at musical academies. It is an affection of the arms which weakens the powers of the player. There is no outward appearance, no pain, nothing to attack but a lack of nerve power. Masters know that the causes of piano cramp are beyond their control.

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

FROST FAIRS ON THE THAMES.

Very wonderful are the tales sometimes told by travellers, so much so that they are often received with a knowing wink or solemn shake of the head. Yet these expressions of incredulity may be quite undeserved, like the laughter and jeers with which the ignorant inhabitants of a tropical clime are said to have greeted one of their brethren who came home with the story that he had seen solid water and people walking about on it. What would those savages have thought could they have seen a "frost fair" on the Thames?

On the 26th of January, 1814, a strong frost, which had lasted about a month, was followed by a thaw, and the ice on the Thames came down in a huge "pack," which was suddenly arrested between the bridges by the renewal of the frost. On the 31st the ice pack was so firmly frozen in one mass that people began to pass over it, and next day the footing appeared so safe that thousands of persons ventured to cross. Opposite to Queenhithe, where the mass appeared most solid, upwards of 30 booths were erected for the sale of food and drink, and for the playing of skittles. A sheep was roasted before a fire in a tent on the ice, and sold in shilling slices under the name of "Lapland mutton." Musicians came, and dances were held on the rough and slippery surface. What with the gay appearance of the booths and the number of popular amusements going on, the spectacle was most cheerful and exciting. Next day, faith in the ice having increased, there were vast multitudes upon it between the London and Blackfriars Bridges; the tents for the sale of refreshments and for games of chance had largely multiplied; swings and merry-go-rounds were added to skittles; in short, there were all the appearances of a Greenwich or Bartholomew Fair, and "Frost Fair" was a term in everybody's mouth. Among the people who strove to make a trade of the occasion none were more active than the poorer class of printers, some of whom, it is said, earned as much as £10 a day by printing and selling verses composed in honour of the occasion.

All who remember the scene on the river describe it as having been singular and picturesque. It was not merely a white icy plain covered with flag-bearing booths and lively crowds. The peculiar circumstances under which this part of the river had finally been frozen caused it to appear as a variegated ice country —hill and dale, and devious walk, all mixed together, with human beings thronging over every bit of accessible surface.

After Frost Fair had lasted with increasing activity for four days, a killing thaw came with the Saturday, and those traders who possessed any prudence struck their flags and departed. Many, unwilling to go while any customers remained, held on past the right time, and towards evening there was a strange medley of tents and merry-go-rounds and printing presses seen floating about on detached masses of ice, beyond recovery of their dismayed owners, who had themselves barely escaped with their lives. By Monday nothing was to be seen where Frost Fair had been but a number of ice-boards swinging lazily backwards and forwards under the impulse of the tide.

Though there has been no recurrence of Frost Fair on the Thames since 1814, that is not the only occasion on which the phenomenon has occurred. The next previous instance was in the winter of 1788-9; the next again in January 1740, when people dwelt in tents on the Thames for weeks. In 1715-16, the river was thickly frozen for several miles, and became the scene of a popular *fête*, resembling that above described, with the additional feature of an ox roasted whole for the regalement of the people. The next previous instance was in January 1684, when there was a continued frost for seven weeks, producing ice 18 inches thick. Coaches on this occasion plied from Westminster to the Temple and back as in the streets, and there were bull-baitings, horse and coach races, puppet-shows, &c. so that it seemed to be a carnival on water. King Charles II., with other personages of the royal family, visited the diversions, and had their names printed upon a quarto piece of Dutch paper with a type border, as follows:—

> CHARLES, King
> JAMES, Duke
> KATHERINE, Queen
> MARY, Duchess
> ANNE, Princess
> GEORGE, Prince
> HANS IN KILDER
>
> London: Printed by G. Croome, on the Ice on the River of Thames, Jan. 31, 1684.

A NORTH COUNTRY LEGEND.

The pastor, from his home on northern wold,
Went forth at duty's call
To comfort some poor member of his fold
Held in Death's fatal thrall.

'Twas Christmas Eve, and all the wild, dark day
Two curly-headed boys
Watched for his steps, and whiled the time away,
Prattling of Christmas joys.

The wintry light faded to ghastly gloom,
Lighted by snowy gleams;
The weary children sought their father's room,
And watched for him in dreams.

Then suddenly the elder, waking, cried,
"Father is wrapped in snow,
Stretched on the ground close to the quarry's side;
Come, brother, let us go!"

So these small heroes sallied forth alone,
The household all asleep,
And found the pastor lying cold as stone
In deadly slumber deep.

Toil-worn and hungry, all his strength had failed,
The storm had won the strife;
But children's loving lips o'er Death prevailed,
And kissed him back to life!

THE MONKEY AND THE SUGAR.

Master Monkey, in the following story, certainly deserved his prize after taking so much trouble to gain it.

I remember, says a gentleman, once, when I was in India, giving a tame monkey a lump of sugar inside a corked bottle. Sometimes, in an impulse of disgust, it would throw the bottle away, out of its own reach, and then be distracted until it was given back to it. At others, it would sit with a countenance of the most intense dejection, contemplating the bottled sugar, and then, as if pulling itself together for another effort at solution, would sternly take up the problem afresh, and gaze into it. It would tilt it up one way, and try to drink the sugar out of the neck, and then suddenly reversing it, try to catch it as it fell out at the bottom. Under the impression that it could capture it by a surprise, it kept rasping its teeth against the glass in futile bites, and in pursuit of the revolving lump, used to tie itself into regular knots around the bottle. Fits of the most ludicrous melancholy would alternate with spasms of delight, as a new idea seemed to suggest itself, followed by a fresh series of experiments. Nothing availed, however, until one day a light was shed upon the problem by a jar of olives falling from the table with a crash, and the fruit rolling about in all directions. His monkeyship contemplated the catastrophe, and reasoned upon it with the intelligence of a Humboldt. Lifting the bottle high in his paws he brought it down upon the floor with a tremendous noise, smashing the glass into fragments, after which he calmly transferred the sugar to his mouth, and munched it with much satisfaction.

NUTS TO CRACK.

1.—I consist of thirteen letters. My 7, 6, 5, 4 is a bird; my 4, 10, 7 is a quadruped; my 7, 6, 13, 5, 12 is a race of people; my 2, 13 is a pronoun; my 9, 2, 5, 12 is in the positive degree; my 8, 3, 10, 11 is a kind of vessel; and my whole a town in Scotland.

2.—HIDDEN FLOWERS.—Accept and keep in kind remembrance; Yes, he became liable for it; Now, Ada, is your best time; well, well, how slily he comes.

3.—Whole, an animal; behead me, a river; again, and I handle.

4.—Whole I am a portion; behead, an animal; behead again, a common word.

5.—I am in my first left or right; in my second I am a resting place; and my whole is an improvement on my second.

6.—My first is under; my second is adhesive; and my whole is lofty.

7.—DIAMONDS.—A consonant; a utensil; a doctrine; parcels; a girl's name; a beverage; a consonant.

8.—A letter; a pronoun; twigs; an American General; an Irish patriot; a form of the verb sit; a letter.

9.—A letter; a tiny creature; a Frenchman; a mountain; an old English name; a peak; a letter.

LAST WEEK'S KERNELS.

1. Pen-in-su-la. 2. Be-half. 3. OLIO. 4. Laden Aden, dean, Dane, Dan, and, an.

5.	6.	7.
POST	FONT	HONE
ONCE	OHIO	OPEN
SCAN	NICE	NEED
TENT	TOES	ENDS

THAT SOVEREIGN.

[All rights reserved.]

My story begins in a quiet little room whose window overlooked a retired street in a large town. As there was only a week before Christmas, the street was, perhaps, rather more lively than usual, and a young woman, sitting at the window, watched the people passing and re-passing in the light of the winter afternoon. It may give some insight into Harriet Varleigh's character when we learn that she could spare a few kindly thoughts to these passers-by, although her mind was fully occupied with trials and perplexities of its own. As they went and came her heart followed them with silent blessings—young and old, rich and poor, she prayed that they might all have a happy Christmas. It is a bad sign when we think that the whole heaven ought to be dark because the little bit of sky just over our own heads happens to be clouded.

By-and-bye there was a rattle of wheels in the street, and then a handsome carriage stopped at Mr. Varleigh's door. A lady and a little girl languidly disencumbered themselves of their fur rugs and descended, not unconscious that they were attracting some notice. Harriet went to meet them on the threshold.

"Cold weather, isn't it, Harriet?" said Mrs. Hardy, kissing her sister. "But Adelaide and I are fond of fresh air, and we would not use the brougham to-day. How are father and mother?"

"Not in very good spirits, Lydia," Harriet answered. "But they will be glad to see you."

The value of one of Mrs. Hardy's diamond rings would have purchased all the furniture and simple ornaments in that little parlour, and yet there was always an air of comfort and refinement about the room. Perhaps Lydia wondered why it was that her own satin and velvet-covered chairs and costly tables did not make her grand house look more like a home. But there were no such thoughts as these in the mind of her daughter; Adelaide looked about her, and marvelled, for the hundredth time, how grandfather and grandmother and Aunt Harriet could live in that poky place.

"Well, father," said Lydia, taking a chair by the old man's side, "this failure of Belmont's is a terrible business. It's a great blow for you and dear mother."

"Yes, Lydia, yes," responded Mr. Varleigh, patiently. "I've been his head clerk for sixteen years, ever since my own failure, you know, and he knows that I served him faithfully. It's a hard thing for a man of my age to be thrown out of employment."

"I wish my husband had a place to offer you," said Mrs. Hardy, with evident sincerity.

"I shouldn't like Mark to turn away any of his people on my account," Mr. Varleigh replied. "It would not be fair, Lydia. I don't think, however, that I shall find anything to do in this town; it seems to me that my work here is done."

"But, father, where would you seek employment if not here?" asked Lydia, in a troubled tone. "You surely will not go among strangers?"

"Your mother and I have been talking the matter over," he answered; "and last week I wrote to Mr. Powell, asking if he had room for me in his establishment. You know that he is one of my oldest friends. Well, his answer came this morning, and he says neither yes nor no, but tells me to come up to London to-morrow, and adds that he should like to see his god-child again."

"And you are going, father? And Harriet too?" said Lydia.

"Yes, and Harriet too. We think that the sight of her may make him feel still more kindly towards us. He lost a daughter of his own not long ago."

"It is bitter weather for a journey," Lydia remarked. And then she glanced at Harriet, sitting by the window in her well-worn serge gown.

Now Harriet was a daily governess, and had by no means a liberal salary. The sum that a journey to London would cost was a mere trifle to the rich brewer's wife, but it was a serious matter to the poor teacher.

Mrs. Hardy had been shopping that afternoon—buying pretty things for Adelaide's Christmas-tree, and bats and balls for her two boys. Then, too, she had seen some Honiton lace which was just the thing for that new dress of hers, and she had bought that, and a few costly articles with which the shopman had tempted her. She had gone out with plenty of money in her pocket, and was coming home with exactly one sovereign in her purse. One sovereign. A journey to London, first-class, would cost eighteen and sixpence; but Harriet and her father would travel second-class. Something (what was it?) prompted her to slip that sovereign into her sister's hand as she said good-bye.

But as she stood up to depart she resisted the impulse. She was not, on the whole, very well pleased with Harriet; that young woman was too straightforward to flatter, and too sensible to be awed by Mrs. Hardy's wealth and grandeur. If, instead of honesty getting her own living, Harriet had hung round Lydia's neck like a millstone, and had paid her for her favours with unlimited homage, Mrs. Hardy would have felt more kindly disposed towards her. And so Lydia hardened herself, and kept the sovereign in her pocket.

"Good-bye, Harriet," she said; "you will find it very cold in the train to-morrow. I advise you to have a foot-warmer."

Harriet smiled to herself, thinking of the curious appropriateness of certain Bible words to the present occasion. "And if one of you say, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?"

Another text was ringing in Lydia's ears as she stepped into her carriage—a text that sent a hot flush into her cheeks in spite of the frosty winter weather. "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!"

It did not strike her, as her carriage rolled on out of that quiet street, that it is a fearful thing to wrestle with one's good angel and conquer him.

The Hardys were universally spoken of as liberal people. It was Mark Hardy's pleasure to be noted for lavish good nature. He used to say that he liked to spend his money in a royal way; and he delighted in giving people more than they expected, or had any right to expect. If he stayed at an inn he fee'd waiters and chambermaids and ostlers in a fashion that made them stare.

"What a princely sort of gentleman!" said they, in his hearing; and behind his back they whispered, with a titter, "The fool and his money soon parted." Alas for Mark! He had not learnt that gold, like grain, must be sown in the right soil if it is to produce a harvest.

If Harriet had entertained a faint hope that Lydia might have spared a coin to her sister out of her abundance, it was resigned without a sigh. Harriet was no longer a very young girl, and she had learnt to live her life, and make the best of it. After Mrs. Hardy's departure she went up-stairs, and counted her money—not a difficult task, seeing that all she possessed was three pounds nine shillings and sixpence. And then, with this vast sum spread out upon her little dressing-table, she foolishly fell to building castles in the winter twilight. How delightful it must be, she thought, to be clever enough to make a comfortable income instead of a governess's salary! If she had only had talent enough, now, to become an artist like Frank Darby!

She remembered how, in her school-days, she had been the favourite pupil of old Darby, the drawing-master. The other girls had laughed at her sometimes for her courtesy and attention to the old man who had been shabby in his dress and reserved in manner. They laughed still more when, on Saturday afternoons, Harriet spent her leisure hours in going to the drawing-master's home, and ministering to his young daughter, who was dying of consumption. There was a son in that home, seven or eight years older than Harriet, who regarded the kind-hearted school-girl as somebody very little lower than the angels. Well, the daughter died; Harriet left school, and then came Lydia's marriage, closely followed by the change in Mr. Varleigh's circumstances. Of late years, Harriet, in her teacher-life, had heard and read of one Frank Darby, who was fast becoming a famous artist, and wondered if he could really be the old drawing-master's son.

It was cold and dark in the little chamber, so Harriet locked up her money, left her dreams, and went down-stairs to tea and the duties of life. Her father had been reading Mr. Powell's letter again, and was hopeful about the result of the morrow's journey. Her mother's face brightened when Harriet, seating herself at the table, declared that she believed something good was in store for them all.

The journey to London was not a very pleasant one. The travellers rose and dressed in the darkness of a winter morning, and started before the day had fairly dawned. But when at last the sun came up, there was such a sparkle on frosty fields and frozen streams that, in spite of the cold, Harriet almost enjoyed herself. Still, it was with benumbed fingers and smarting feet that the pair alighted on the London platform, and then rattled off in a cab to Oxford-street.

"Mr. Powell told me he was to be found at his place of business," said Mr. Varleigh. "You have never seen his shop, Harriet; he is one of the largest silk-mercers in London."

They found Mr. Powell in a well-furnished parlour at the back of his palace of plate glass. Harriet's heart was too full of anxiety just then to be moved to covetousness at the sight of elegant winter costumes and fur jackets that would have cost more than a whole year's salary. The silk mercer received them very kindly, and looked at Harriet with a fatherly interest, which was heightened, perhaps, by the plainness of her dress. She was too sensible a woman not to feel that cheap finery is a poor substitute for rich materials; but she took an honest feminine pride in looking her best. Mr. Powell concluded his business in a short time. After a few questions and answers, he agreed to engage Mr. Varleigh as a clerk in his establishment, and the salary he offered was better than Harriet's father had received from his former employer.

In all London there were not, perhaps, two gladder hearts than the pair that had been so heavy in the early morning. Then, too, Mr. Powell had told Harriet that he thought he could get her the post of daily governess in the family of his married daughter, so that her cup of happiness was full indeed. She was wont to say, long afterwards, that light hearts make careless feet. The wide pavement in Oxford-street was a little slippery that day, and Harriet, taking small heed of her steps, suddenly measured her length on the stones.

Poor Mr. Varleigh uttered a cry of alarm; but before he could offer his aid, Harriet was raised by a stronger arm than his. She stood up, blushing and confused, to meet the gaze of a pair of familiar eyes, whose steady look still farther disconcerted her.

"I hope you are not hurt," said an equally familiar voice.

"Not in the least, thank you," she answered hastily brushing the skirt of her much-enduring serge gown.

"I can't be mistaken," said the voice again. "It surely is Miss Varleigh?"

"Yes; and you are Mr. Frank Darby," she responded, brightly. "Oh, how strange that we should meet in this way! Mr. Darby—my father."

Mr. Varleigh had never heard of Mr. Darby in his life, but he was in that happy mood which renders a man cordial to everybody. The three walked along Oxford-street as naturally as if they had been in the habit of meeting every day.

"I knew you at once," said Frank Darby to Harriet; "you are very little altered."

Now, it is pleasant to a woman who is on the wrong side of five-and-twenty to be told that she looks much the same as she did at seventeen. And poor Harriet, who had had her full share of the wear and tear of life, was quite comforted and heartened by that little speech.

"And you are a great artist now, are you not?" she asked, simply.

"Well, I believe I'm getting up the world's ladder," he answered, smiling. "But climbing is hard work."

"And your father?" she questioned, timidly.

"The dear old man is at rest, Miss Varleigh. He lived long enough, however, to see my early difficulties all conquered. He never forgot you and your kindness to our poor Alice."

As Frank said this his firm voice trembled a little. Success had neither hardened his heart nor made him anxious to forget his humbler days. And then, in a few words, Harriet told him of the changes that she had known, and of their plans for the future.

"So you are coming to live in London," he said, in a glad tone. "You will let me have your address, Miss Varleigh, I hope, and allow me to call upon you."

She gave the required promise, and they parted; Harriet going back to her home in a pleasant state of excitement which was very unusual in her quiet life. It was a happy little party that gathered round Mr. Varleigh's humble supper-table that night, and the mother could not help remarking that the daughter looked all the fresher for the journey. So light was Harriet's heart when she retired to rest, that she lay awake for very thankfulness and joy. But Mrs. Hardy, in her luxurious house, was restless and irritable, tormented by the sting of a neglected duty. There was still enough good left in Lydia to make her dissatisfied with herself.

The married daughter shed many tears when her parents and sisters took leave of her. She had no parting gift for Harriet; but Harriet was no longer in need of her aid. Mr. Powell had sent his god-child a Christmas present of five pounds, and a parcel containing a sealskin jacket and cloth enough to make a fashionable gown. It vexed Lydia that a friend should do what a sister had left undone. Moreover, Harriet looked provokingly young and bright in her handsome new costume, and Mrs. Hardy knew that ease and luxury had impaired her own charms instead of preserving them.

There are modest streets and cheap lodgings to be found even in fashionable neighbourhoods; and the Varleighs discovered suitable quarters not too far from Oxford-street. Mr. Powell's daughter lived in a fine house in Regent's-park, and was at first a little disposed to look coldly on her father's *protégée*. But when it was ascertained that Mr. Darby, the great artist, frequently visited the Varleighs, Mrs. Barland congratulated herself on having secured such an excellent governess as Miss Varleigh, and was prepared to treat Harriet as a friend. It was not long, however, before the excellent governess resigned her situation.

One morning, when all the trees in Regent's-park were in the fresh leafiness of early summer, Harriet was taking her daily walk to the Barlands' house. Flower-scents wandered towards her from gardens and shrubberies; dogs and cats and beggars were basking in the sunshine; and fashionable beauties were still asleep and dreaming of last night's ball. It was no surprise to the little governess to see Frank Darby coming towards her; the busy artist had already had two hours of hard work, and was refreshing himself, as he often did, by a walk after breakfast.

But there was something in his greeting that morning that sent the colour to her cheeks. Harriet looked anywhere but into his face—away to the trees and the stately houses—and then silently scolded herself for being such a goose.

"I came out on purpose to meet you, Miss Varleigh," said straightforward Frank. "There is a question that I long to ask you. I wanted to ask it years ago, but I didn't dare to do so. Can you guess what it is?"

"No," replied Harriet, recklessly telling a terrible fib.

"Well, then, it's just this. Do you love me a little, Harriet? No, I don't mean a little, but well enough to marry me?"

Now, Harriet was not wholly unprepared for this question, and yet, when it was asked, it positively took away her breath. There was a short silence before she recovered the power of speech.

"I think I do," she answered at last. "Yes; I'm sure I do."

... together to Mrs. Barland's, and on their way they passed Mr Darby's own home, which was even handsomer than the Barlands'. Harriet thought of all the art treasures which the artist's dwelling contained, and had a vision of the soft rich colours that made his rooms so pleasant to the eyes. Was it really possible that she was going to live there and be mistress of such a beautiful home?

Before autumn set in there was a quiet wedding at a West-end church. Mrs. Hardy and her husband were present at the ceremony; but Lydia's face looked worn and old, and Mark had a jaded aspect, which did not escape Harriet's notice. But there was not time for the sisters to say many words to each other, and the Hardys went home on the day after the wedding. Perhaps Mr. and Mrs. Varleigh, proud of the match that Harriet had made, were too much occupied to see the change in Lydia and Mark. Certain it is that Mrs. Hardy was glad to get away from London, and said to herself, with some bitterness, that she was no longer a person of consequence in her own family.

Years passed away, and Harriet and Lydia met very seldom. Two little children had come to the house in Regent's-park; and the sons and daughters in Lydia's home had outgrown toys and dolls and were giving themselves the airs of grown-up-people. Grandmamma Varleigh used to say that children grew up too soon now-a-days, and she did her best to keep Harriet's little ones in their babyhood. Meanwhile, neither the Varleighs nor the Darbys knew how badly things were going on with the Hardys.

It was a very commonplace story, after all—the story of a self-willed man who knew that he must in the end reach the bottom of the hill, and yet would not be checked in his career. If Lydia expostulated, her words only served to make him more reckless; and at length she held her peace in sheer despair, and let him go his way.

There came a certain Christmas Eve when it was known throughout the town that the Hardys' circumstances were as bad as they possibly could be. People discussed the matter over shop-counters, in drawing-rooms, and over tea-tables with that keen delight in having something to talk about which is so very human. And while the gossips were busy with her affairs, Lydia sat alone in her pretty boudoir, too miserable to weep, and too weary to think. Already the pampered servants were beginning to be insolent, and the table was covered with tradesmen's bills. Mark had gone up to town to face one or two of his principal creditors. Lydia had received a letter from him that morning's post, asking her to come and join him at once, and saying that he was nervous and out of health. In the midst of all their ruin and desolation, the love of man and wife was beginning, as it often does in such a case, to bloom afresh, and poor Mark was feeling that he could not do without Lydia. But he had quite forgotten one important fact, and that was that Mrs. Hardy had scarcely any money in her possession.

Incredible as it might have seemed to most people, Lydia had only one sovereign and two shillings remaining in her purse. How could she go away, even for a few days, and leave her children without money? And there were her travelling expenses to be paid out of this slender sum. Go she must, and Adelaide and the boys must make the best of their circumstances; but there was not one of those gay friends who had been so royally entertained in the brewer's mansion to whom Lydia could apply. She shrank from asking a favour, knowing only too well that, as rats run away from a falling house, so do acquaintances desert a needy friend.

It was already past noon, and still she was sitting there with Mark's letter in her hand, and her mind full of unutterable perplexity and confusion. When she wanted to think, clearly and steadily, about the present, her thoughts went straying back to the past—back to a winter afternoon long ago, when it was just before Christmas. She saw again her father's little parlour, and Harriet sitting by the window in her shabby serge gown. She saw, too, the patient smile on her sister's poor pale face as the carriage rolled away from the door.

That sovereign! Then, as now, she had one gold coin remaining in her purse; and then, as now, certain Bible words were ringing in her ears: but they were not the same words. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. *For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.*"

Surely the words of the Great Teacher are verified every hour in our own lives, and in the lives of those around us. He who for three-and-thirty years took our nature upon him, and walked our earth, has left us no warning more solemn than this. For the first time in her life poor Lydia realised how thoroughly our Lord knew the human heart, and how, in his infinite love, He strove to guard it against the agony that it is prone to bring upon itself.

Her head was bowed upon her hands, and her whole frame was so shaken with sobs that she did not hear the opening of the door. It was not until an arm was put tenderly round her shoulders that she looked up. Harriet was by her side.

"Dear Lydia," she said, "Mark came last night and told us all. I have come to take you and the children back to town with me, and we will have a happy Christmas, please God, in spite of the troubles. I daresay you have forgotten our old servant Elizabeth. At our suggestion Mark has written to her, telling her to come and take charge of the house till your return. Don't break down, Lydia; all will be well yet."

"Oh, Harriet," sobbed Mrs. Hardy, resting her head on that kind breast, "don't you remember the time when Belmont failed, and father was thrown out of his situation? I've been sitting here and thinking how I saw you in need of aid and hardened my heart. When I came in on that winter afternoon, and heard that you were going to London, I had just one sovereign in my purse, and a voice seemed to bid me give it to you to pay your travelling expenses. I stifled the voice, Harriet, and I deserve to suffer for it. Do you know how much money I have got now? Just one sovereign and two shillings, Harriet, not a farthing more."

Harriet was silent for a moment. She remembered now, at that time, she had thought it more than possible that a day like this might come to her sister.

"Lydia," she answered at last, "when we get the first clear glimpse of our real selves, it is always an agonising moment in our lives. But it is the most blessed moment that we can know on this side of the grave."

Just as the winter dusk had set in, Mrs. Darby and her charges quitted the great luxurious house which had never been a true home, and drove away to the railway station. And then followed the three hours' journey to London, and the arrival in the darkness of the December evening. It was impossible to forget that it was Christmas Eve, for crowds were coming and going, arriving and departing, as the trains came and went. What happy meetings there were on that vast London platform! Parents and children, young men and maidens, friends whose hearts had never been severed, although their paths in life lay far apart—all these were coming together to spend the world's great holyday—the blessed Christmas tide.

"On earth, peace," said Harriet to her sister. "Be assured, Lydia, that this 'peace' is meant for you."

And truly, from that time, peace entered Lydia's soul, and kept her calm when she was called upon to begin life anew. Seeing her so brave and steadfast, Mark borrowed his wife's courage, and put his shoulder to the wheel with such energy that he partly regained his old standing in the commercial world. But the grand house and furniture, and the carriages and horses, were sold; the Hardys were forced to content themselves with living in a humble style, and those who loved them best saw that they and their children were all the better for these changes.

And to this day Lydia Hardy tells her grandchildren that the good angel she had driven away came back to her on a Christmas Eve.

Although the cold wintry wind may whistle around his footsteps, and the hoar frost may sparkle in his white beard, Father Christmas, whenever he visits us, bears a warm heart within his bosom. If we ask him how this is, he will tell us that 'tis because he comes on a good mission—to stir kindly thoughts and feelings in our minds, and rouse us all to deeds of love and unselfishness. People who have warm loving hearts don't think any more about the weather than did two little folks of whom we are told in the Christmas number of the *Quiver*.

It seems, from what the story-teller says, that carter Humphreys was driving through the sleet and darkness on a nasty wet night, not at all the proper weather for Christmas, when he suddenly reined up his horse and uttered an exclamation. Two mere scraps of children were tramping along the road, icy-cold, of course, with shoes full of water. They were carrying a bundle in front of them, and an umbrella spread behind them. "Hi! ho! what's that?" cried the carter, "where are you off to, Molly and Tommy, pegging away at the rate of a hunt?" "We're not Molly and Tommy," cried the boy, in fearless high spirits. "We're Poppy and Pickle." "And where are you off to this time of night?" The boy grinned with glee. He was a very small boy, of the sharp type that always answers back. "We're going to town, sir, to santerclows our cousin." "*What* are you going to do with her?" roared the driver of the cart. "Tisn't a her; she's a him. And I'm going to give him a reg'lar good santerclowsing!" "Bless my heart! What's he done to you?" "Nothing, sir." "Then what do you mean, you young rascal—going all that way to trounce him? Quarrelling at Christmas time, too! You ought to know better. What does your sister say to it?" "Santerclowsing isn't quarrelling," shrieked the boy. "Then what is it, young man? It sounds uncommonly like thumping." Poppy and Pickle were both screaming with laughter, all in the drizzle and snow, till the umbrella nearly blew them over. "Come up into the cart. I'll take you to town." A hard, high scramble for the red-cheeked girl and boy; their faces were clear white and red with the winter wind. Off they rattled and jogged, all three together. "Now hold your tongue, sir," said Humphreys, "and let this young woman explain." The young woman—who was seven years old, with a face as round as a daisy—spoke up, after some nudging from the elbow of Pickle. "He wanted to say that we are going to do Santa Claus for our cousin. We call it Santa-Clausing. Our little cousin Jack has got a sneezy cold; he is ill in bed; and he has nobody to fill his stocking; so we have got all the old toys from the Hall to fill it." "What a fine leg your cousin Jack must have, when he is well and about!" Humphreys looked down at the huge bundle. "And does Santa Claus come to you to fill your stocking?" "Father does it," said both at once.

A GREAT SUCCESS.

FACTS AND EVIDENCE v. ASSERTION.

THE business commenced with a capital of £...00. The writer had been previously living in Vienna, and had there acquired the knowledge of an article now universally known in Great Britain and Ireland, and such strong proof was there afforded to him of its great merits that he became enthusiastic in its favour, and ultimately threw up the business in which he was then engaged, and came right home at once solely for the purpose of making known this then unknown article, in association with a partner. And looking back the writer is astonished at his temerity, for it was started to do with £2,000 that which it is variously estimated by experts requires from £25,000 to £50,000 of capital to accomplish. It is true that capital was borrowed, and that a Limited Company was formed to complete the development of "Gordon's Extract," which is the business to which allusion is made; yet none the less the purpose originally held in view has become an accomplished fact, and in less than three years this remedy has grown from utter insignificance to be one of the largest-sold proprietary medicines in the Kingdom, at a capital expenditure of certainly less than one-third of the sum it has taken to establish any other proprietary medicine, despite of very largely-increased competition, and in the face of the gigantic advertising of some of its contemporaries. Truth is mighty and must prevail. There is an intangible something in a straightforward statement of facts, such as has always marked the advertisements of "Gordon's Extract," and upon which no man can lay his finger and say "That is it" that impels conviction of its truth, even when the language is bald and the comparisons threadbare, and hence the reason of the enormous success attendant upon the introduction of "Gordon's Extract." The proof afforded by the 54,000 test bottles sent out for gratuitous trial has been so vast and overwhelmingly irresistible in favour of the medicine, that commendatory letters of the very highest character and from the most unimpeachable sources have flowed in in the past, and stream in in the present, so freely, that every theory of disease that has been broached, every statement of fact, and every assertion that has been made, has received corroboration from the evidence, very often from clergymen, that we have been enabled to print from among the stores of testimonials, some thousands in number, that have been received. It cannot be said that the "Gordon's Extract" success is owing to advertising, for while the expenditure of the business for advertisements has been nearly £2,000 less for the eight months of 1885 ending August 31st than for the same period in 1884, yet on the other hand the actual sales of "Gordon's Extract" have in eight months of 1885 exceeded those of the same dates in 1884 by no less than £1,623 10s. 9d. This fact of increased business, despite decreased advertising, is extraordinary and altogether unique in the annals of a proprietary medicine, for less advertising with other remedies is universally known to be accompanied by a dwindling business, whereas with "Gordon's Extract" just the opposite has taken place. It is, therefore, quite certain that the growth of the "Gordon's Extract" business is owing to the plain straightforwardness and honesty of the claims made about this remedy, impelling faith and belief in it, and because the merits of the remedy are manifestly of a high curative order, so as to secure for it the energetic and impromptu recommendation of those who use it. This is proven by the reports on its merits, sent post free on application.

The great success of "Gordon's Extract" is in large measure owing to

THE NOVEL METHOD OF INTRODUCTION.

THE firm of GORDON & CO. established themselves at 11, Long Lane, E.C., in November 1883, for the purpose of making "Gordon's Extract" known. Severe and searching tests had proved the Extract to be a remedy possessed of very great efficaciousness. The owners were at first sorely perplexed as to the manner by which they might make the medicine known, for so many worthless remedies had been imposed upon the public that the greatest scepticism was known to exist as to the merits of anything new. It at length occurred to the proprietors that the introduction would be greatly facilitated if unlimited and unimpeachable proof of the merits of "Gordon's Extract" was forthcoming from a class on whose word all men might rely. And, therefore, from two to six bottles of the medicine were offered gratis to clergymen of all denominations for gift and test among the sick poor. And 1,500 of the clergy, recognising that the only benefit Gordon & Co. could derive from this method of free distribution must arise from the merits of the medicine, applied for free bottles of "Gordon's Extract," and to them, on the aggregate, were sent 10,000 bottles of medicine. But, in addition, Gordon & Co. were overwhelmed with applications from poor sick people, without the intervention of clergymen, and so it came about that no less than 54,000 bottles of "Gordon's Extract" were in 1883-4 given free of all cost—the carriage even being paid to the most remote places—for the purpose of a widespread test being made of the remedy. Never before has a medicine been proved to be possessed of great merit at so little cost to the consumer, several thousand pounds sterling of capital having been sunk in this one purpose alone. And now the knowledge of the efficacy of "Gordon's Extract" has spread, and its merits have become known to a million of people. The persons who have used "Gordon's Extract" have had reason to bless it, and have shown their appreciation by their recommendation, and hence it is that the medicine has a very large, and fast, and ever-multiplying sale. "Gordon's Extract" was freely tested both by the clergy and the public at large, because people believed it to possess almost marvellous qualities to justify the faith of the owners in submitting "Gordon's Extract" to a test so stern and severe. Seven thousand written testimonials have been received; very many have been published in this paper during the past 14 months. Two hundred reports from clergymen may be had on application, proving "Gordon's Extract" beyond the shadow of a doubt to be a great and merciful curative medicine. These 200 ministers have tested "Gordon's Extract," roundly speaking, among a thousand cases; and that they are able to bear strong witness in favour of the medicine in itself proves that the remedy possesses curative efficacy of the highest character. Those who suffer from sick-headache, biliousness, or mysterious aches and pains, may rely upon "Gordon's Extract" destroying the roots of the disease that afflicts them, thereby dispersing the painful symptoms. And if a dose of "Gordon's Extract" is taken instantly after each meal, they who have until now suffered from pain and distension of the stomach after food, or have been afflicted with offensive breath, nausea, or miseries, agonies, or discomfort after meals, or while eating, may take great comfort, for "Gordon's Extract" mixes with and converts food in the stomach into a form easy of digestion, and of affording nourishment, thereby absolutely preventing the recurrence of discomfort. Neither Bad Digestion, Acidity, Heartburn, Flatulence, Costiveness, nor the languor, melancholia, or enervation caused by an inactive liver can exist in a man's body if he take "Gordon's Extract," and if it be that you suffer already from any of these or kindred symptoms, you may gain speedy relief and ultimate cure by the use of "Gordon's Extract," for the merits of which so very many clergymen are able to vouch.

Gordon's Extract, Price 2s. Of all Chemists. Less than a Penny per Dose. Testimonials from 200 Clergymen free on application. Warehouse: 11, Long Lane, London, E.C.

Read the following proofs, and you will be convinced of what we say:—

From the *Christian Commonwealth*, Sept. 3, 1885. —"'Gordon's Extract.'—We are not in the habit of commending even the articles advertised in our columns, for we cannot always tell, even with the utmost care, what is certainly worthy, but we do not hesitate to say that from the testimonials we have examined, and from personal knowledge of 'Gordon's Extract,' that it is a good and safe medicine for the diseases for which it is recommended."

Myra's Journal, August, 1885, one of the very best Ladies' Fashion Journals, says:—"'Gordon's Extract' has been highly commended to me by a friend who appears to have derived great benefit from it, and also, having arrived at the last stage of despair of ever curing a long course of Sick Headache, took the 'Extract' without any faith in its efficacy at first. At present my friend cannot speak too highly of the excellence of 'Gordon's Extract' in curing Sick-Headache and Biliousness. It also appears to be beneficial for many of the complaints to which flesh is heir, but which are not so serious as to need a doctor's aid."—THE SILKWORM.

Business Announcements.

SUCCESS COMMANDS SUCCESS

SPECULATION & INVESTMENT with limited and defined risk. Stock Exchange operations ... [illegible] ... MIDDLETON & CO. ... [illegible]

COMBINATIONS of SPECULATORS for STOCK EXCHANGE dealings as fast as remittances reach them. Operations extend from two to thirty days or thereabouts. Immediate operations. Immediate settlements. Profits divided pro rata.

NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUCCESS.

MIDDLETON & CO. have invariably made large and speedy profits, ranging from

40% to 500%

and they have always closed their

COMBINATIONS WITH VERY HANDSOME PROFITS in them for each & every Contributor interested. Shares £5 each. Any number open. Explanatory Pamphlet (6th edit.) entitled "MONEY MANIPULATED, MASSED, and MULTIPLIED," Post free, and all particulars on application.

INDIVIDUAL SPECULATIVE ACCOUNTS opened on unique and very favourable terms. DEALINGS AT THE CLOSEST MARKET PRICES, with no further liability beyond the cover actually deposited.

DISCRETIONARY ACCOUNTS opened and advised upon and conducted with care and skill.

MIDDLETON & Co., Sworn Stock & Share BROKERS and DEALERS.
HEAD OFFICES—54 Moorgate St. } LONDON, E.C.
Branch Offices—7, Tramp St.
Telephone Nos. 16184 and 840.
Telegraphic Address, "Combination," London.

EMPLOYMENT for LADIES.—10/- to 15/- weekly can be earned by the Patent Automatic Knitting Machine.—Send addressed envelope for easy terms and work supplied to K. A. Company, 417, Oxford Street, London, W.

FINGERING WORSTEDS at MILL PRICES.
• GREENOCK MERINO MILL YARN STORES.
Branches in all the Principal Towns in Scotland.
The Spinners of these celebrated Scotch, Welsh, and Berlin Fingering and Wheeling Yarns, which are well known and largely used throughout Scotland, are opening Stores in all the Principal Towns in England. They are also prepared to appoint one Agent in each of the smaller Towns in England.—Apply "Agent," FLEMING, REID & Co., Greenock, N.B.
Wheeling Yarn, 1½d. per oz.; Scotch Fingering, 1½d. per oz.; Berlin Fingering, 2½d. per oz.; Welsh Wool, 2d. per oz.; Heather Mixtures and Fancy Colours, ½d. per oz. extra.
TERMS CASH.

TEA by PARCELS POST.—TEA.
SIX POUNDS of EXCELLENT BLACK TEA sent post free to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of 30/-, 18/6, or 15/-, by PHILLIPS and COMPANY, 8, King William Street, City, London, E.C.

COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS and NEURALGIA.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE,
A few doses quite effectual.—Caution.—The extraordinary medical reports on the efficacy of Chlorodyne render it of vital importance that the public should obtain the genuine, which is protected by a Government stamp, bearing the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne." See decision of Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood, the Times, July 16th, 1864.
Numerous testimonials from eminent Physicians accompany each bottle.
Sold in Bottles, 1/1½, 2/9, & 4/6, by all Chemists.

SONS & DAUGHTERS (Occupation for).—How to enter profitably any profession, trade, or business in the United Kingdom, America, Canada, the Colonies, etc. Send 5d. for "Future Careers," to SEGG & CO., 22, Bouverie-st. Lndn. E.C.

PROF. LOISETTE'S
ART OF NEVER FORGETTING,
UNLIKE MNEMONICS. "His method is Physiological and scientific in the highest degree."—DR. WILSON. "Prof. Loisette gave me a new memory."—JUDAH P. BENJAMIN, Q.C. "It is a perfect memory system."—The Weekly Budget. "By its instrumentality I mastered an abstruse and extensive Work of Science in one reading. If I had read it 100 times, by my natural memory, I could not have known it so well."—C. SALMON, Esq. Great Inducements to Correspondence Classes. Prospectus post free from Prof. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London.

VIOLIN PLAYING.—The best as well as most explicit Tutor for Amateurs that has yet been issued is the PRACTICAL VIOLIN SCHOOL FOR HOME STUDENTS, by J. M. FLEMING, now publishing in monthly parts, price 7d., post free. London: L. Upcott Gill, 170, Strand, W.C.

EMPLOYMENT FOR WOMEN.—At Home, on the Continent, in America, Canada, the Colonies, etc. By Miss Emily Faithfull. Send 5d. for "Future Careers for our Sons & Daughters," to SEGG & CO., 22, Bouverie Street, London, E.C.

ROSES.—Fresh cut Roses, 3/-; Carnations, 2/- the dozen; Mignonette, Violets, Yellow Marguerites, Narcissus, Hyacinths, or Mixed Flowers, 2/- per post box; hamper or twelve post boxes of Flowers, 20/-, are sent carriage free for Cheque, P.O.O., or English stamps. Direct—
ALFRED DE NIEL,
Florist, at Villefranche-sur-Mer, near Nice, France.

WEBBS Vegetable & Flower SEEDS

FREE BY POST OR RAIL.

COLLECTIONS OF
VEGETABLE SEEDS

For small Gardens	5/-, 7/6, and 10/6 each.
For medium-sized Gardens ...	12/6, 15/-, and 21/- each.
For large Gardens	31/6, 42/-, and 63/- each.
For extra large Gardens ...	105/- and 210/- each.

BOXES OF FLORAL GEMS
For the Gardens of Ladies and Amateurs.
2/6, 5/-, 7/6, 10/6, 15/-, and 21/- each.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES. POST FREE.

WEBB & SONS,
By Royal Warrant Seedsmen to Her Majesty the Queen,
WORDSLEY, STOURBRIDGE. [348

UNION LINE.
CAPE of GOOD HOPE, NATAL, & EAST AFRICAN STEAMERS.—The UNION S.S. Co.'s MAIL PACKETS sail from SOUTHAMPTON every alternate Thursday, leaving Plymouth the next day. Apply at the Company's Offices, Oriental Place, Southampton, or 11, Leadenhall St., London, or to W. Elliott, 2, Mount Pleasant, Consett.

ESTABLISHED 1851.
BIRKBECK BANK.—
29, Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London.
THREE per CENT. INTEREST allowed on DEPOSITS repayable on demand.
TWO per CENT. INTEREST allowed on CURRENT ACCOUNTS calculated on the minimum monthly balances when not drawn below £50.
The BIRKBECK ALMANACK, with full particulars, can be obtained post free on application to
FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.

ROPE The BELFAST ROPEWORK Company (Ltd.). Price List on application to Belfast.

SOUTH DEVON.
A Clergyman, M.A. of Cambridge, Ex-Headmaster, 1st Classman, takes a few pupils for the Public Schools. Situation all that can be desired for delicate boys. Home comforts. Private room. Address, Redlands, Sidmouth. [538

ABERDEEN GRANITE MONUMENTS from £5, carriage paid. Inscriptions accurate and beautiful. Plans and Prices from J. W. LEGGE, Sculptor, ABERDEEN. [504

ARMSTRONG BRACES, Patent Spiral Spring. To be had of all Hosiers.

THE "PARKER" UMBRELLA (Registered). 2,000 Silk Umbrellas, 2s. 6d. each. Parker Frames, beautifully Carved and Mounted Sticks, Ladies' or Gents', post free. Address, PARKER'S UMBRELLA WORKS, Sheffield. Re-covering neatly done.

NERVOUS AND PHYSICAL DEBILITY.
A gentleman having tried in vain every advertised remedy has discovered a novel and highly successful yet simple means of self-cure. He will be happy to forward the particulars to any sufferer on receipt of a stamped and directed envelope.
Address, J. T. SEWELL, Esq., Chiswick, Middlesex. [469

WHITFIELD'S SAFES.
FIRE AND THIEF RESISTING.
Through any Ironmonger.

EN AVANT YEAST. BUTTERINE. WILKIN & CO., Appold St., Finsbury, LONDON. [466

UNION LINE, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, NATAL, AND EAST AFRICAN STEAMERS.—The Union S. S. Company's Mail Packets sail from SOUTHAMPTON every alternate Thursday, and from Plymouth the following day. For Passage or Freight apply at the Company's Offices, Oriental Place, Southampton; or 11, Leadenhall Street, London. [327

Bright, pure, and attractive Sunday Reading for the Christian Household will be found in
THE QUIVER. A New Volume will be commenced with the Part published Oct. 25, price 6d.
Prospectuses at all Booksellers, or post free from CASSELL, PETTER, GALPIN & Co., Ludgate Hill, London.

NEW SERIAL WORKS.
FAMILIAR WILD BIRDS, with Coloured Illustrations, Painted from Nature. Part 1 now ready, 6d.
THE SEA: Its Stirring Story of Adventure, Peril, and Heroism. Part 1 now ready, 7d., including large Presentation Plate.
Catalogues of CASSELL, PETTER, GALPIN & Co.'s Publications at all Booksellers, or post free from
Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co., Ludgate Hill, London.

THAMES NAUTICAL TRAINING COLLEGE,
H.M.S. "Worcester," Greenhithe, Kent.
Under the direct Patronage of HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN. For Training Young Gentlemen to become Officers in Mercantile Marine.—The Queen gives annually a Gold Medal and Cadetship in R.N.; the Admiralty give Commissions in R.N.R.; Appointments given to the Hoogly Pilot Service. Prizes are given by the Geographical Society, Meteorological Department ... [illegible] ... apply to W. M. BULLIVANT, Hon. Sec., 72, Mark Lane, London, E.C., or to Capt. J. HENDERSON ... [illegible]

ECONOMY! FRUGALITY!!
WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE!
HOLBROOK & C.'OS
HALF PRICE.

A SOUND HOME INVESTMENT.

THE
PUBLIC WORKS & CONTRACT COMPANY
(LIMITED),

Invite Subscriptions for £5,000, the remainder of their Second Issue of Shares at par, making together £50,000, of which £45,000 has been subscribed. Reserve and Guarantee Funds, £4,000. Shares, £5 each.
After this no further issue will be made except at a Premium of 10/- per Share.

TRUSTEES.
J. SPENCER BALFOUR, Esq., J.P., Vice-Chairman Debenture Corporation (Director of the London & Lancashire Fire Insurance & Assets Realisation Companies).
SAMUEL ROWLES PATTISON, Esq., F.G.S. (Chairman of the Liberator Building Society, and Director of the London and General Bank).
Professor JAMES E. THOROLD ROGERS, M.P. (Chairman of the National Liberal Land Company, Limited).
EDWARD TURNER, Esq., M.A., LL.M., Barrister-at-Law (Chairman of the Medway Portland Cement Company, Limited).

DIVIDENDS PAID AT THE RATE OF TEN PER CENT:
December, 1883; June, 1884; December, 1884; June, 1885; December, 1885.

Applicants for Shares will participate in the Dividend for the Half-year ending 30th June, 1886.
COMMENCING in 1883 with a comparatively small contract, but one which was foreseen by the Directors to be well worth taking, the Company was able, six months after its formation, to declare an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, and since then the progress of the Company has been sufficiently satisfactory to enable them to continue to pay the Shareholders 10 per cent., and to place a similar sum to Reserve Account. By securing a profitable contract for the first undertaking, the Directors placed the future success of the Company beyond doubt, showing the necessary knowledge and forethought essential for such business.
For Prospectuses and Forms of Application Apply to
THOS. DERMER, Esq., Managing Director, 2, Victoria Mansions, Westminster, London, S.W.;
OR APPLICATION CAN BE MADE BY ORDINARY LETTER IN FIRST INSTANCE.

COPYRIGHT. REGISTERED.
"Unique" Mode of Correspondence, devised for Privacy and Protection of Patients, who consult by Letter. A condensed Summary of "Manhood," free on receipt of One Stamp.
BY DR. ADAIR
(Consulting Specialist of 30 years' standing).
MANHOOD ON DEBILITY AND IRRITABILITY (including SPERMATORRHŒA), induced by the infringement of Nature's Laws—Excesses, Urinary difficulties and its train of evils, only known to the sufferer and the physician skilled in SPECIAL AND OBSCURE AILMENTS.

NERVOUS DEBILITY & SPECIAL AILMENTS
CURED WITHOUT MEDICINE.
Post Free (under cover), Two Stamps.
IMPORTANT.—Letters receive prompt attention, and must be prepaid and addressed Dr. ADAIR, No. 24, Marischal Street, Aberdeen.

NOTICE.
Post Free, with Sketches and Details of Self Cure (in sealed envelopes). 6 Stamps.
From J. WILLIAMS, 22, MARISCHAL STREET, ABERDEEN.

THE POCKET MEDICAL ADVISER for Self-Treatment of Nervous Ailments, Functional Derangements, Excesses, and other enervating influences, and their Associated Evils, by the
NEW LOCAL TREATMENT.
"A boon to all desiring 'self-cure' without recourse to physic or the family doctor."—Medical Review."
A Country Parson writes thus:—
"Your 'Guide' enabled me to CURE MYSELF AND OTHERS after years of useless treatment and suffering."

EASY. SAFE.
SELL, BUY, OR EXCHANGE.
2d
Buy a Copy, and
The Bazaar,
EXCHANGE & MART.
See for Yourself.
2d
FOR PRIVATE PERSONS.
CHEAP. QUICK.

BILLIARD & BAGATELLE TABLES, Requisites for do., & all Billiard Work done promptly by Hennig Bros., 11, High-st., W.C., Ldn.

4s. 6d.—TROUSERS for the MILLION.—4s. 6d.
EVERY Working Man should have a pair of Army Cloth or Serge Trousers at 4/6 per pair; also new Tweeds, 4/6 to 10/6; sent post free. Patterns sent, 2 stamps. E. & C. ADKINS, 110, Newington Butts, London.

PAINTS mixed ready for use, best quality, 3d. per lb. or 24s. per cwt. Carriage paid on 1 cwt. Send for List of Colours. MORGAN & SON, Colour Merchants, Blackfriars Rd., London.

INTEMPERANCE.—Tower House Retreat, Westgate-on-Sea, Kent. Principal, J. H. BROWN. Under Government control. Only Establishment in England specially erected for Inebriates of the Upper and Middle Classes.

HEALTH SECURED by
MORISON'S VEGETABLE UNIVERSAL MEDICINES.
To be had of all Chemists throughout Great Britain.

POST FREE FOR SIX STAMPS.
The MARVELLOUS WORK on
CONSUMPTION,
BY GEORGE THOMAS CONGREVE,
Coombe Lodge, Peckham, London, S.E.
Mr. Congreve is publishing ONE RECENT CASE of CURE EVERY WEEK in the "Christian World" and other Weeklies.
NEARLY 100,000 SOLD!

FOGS!
And DAMP AIR produce
Catarrh, Coughs, Hoarseness.
THE FINEST REMEDY FOR
COLDS, COUGHS, etc.,
IS
CONGREVE'S
BALSAMIC ELIXIR,
In bottles, 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d.
SOLD BY ALL MEDICINE HOUSES.

D'ARCY'S DUBLIN STOUT Anchor Brewery Dublin.
(Largest Brewery in Ireland but one.)

EN AVANT YEAST BUTTERINE WILKIN & Co., Appold St., Finsbury, LONDON.

BRASS, REED, STRING, DRUM & FIFE, CONCERTINA and MELODEON BANDS, PIANOS, ORGANS and HARMONIUMS at Wholesale Prices, at J. MOORE & CO., Buxton Road, Huddersfield. Prices with drawings of all Instruments post free. Music for Bands. Bandsmen's Caps. Patronised by Army, Navy, and Rifle Corps. Second-hand Instruments bought or taken in Exchange.

VIOLINS, Roman Strings, Music, Fittings, &c., for Violin, Bass, Harp, Guitar, Banjo, &c. Violin students' outfits from 20/-. Catalogue free. EASTBURN, Violin Maker, Halifax.

CHEAP JEWELLERY, all kinds. Waltham Watches, or Geneva, Clocks, Musical Instruments, Silver Jewellery, Fancy Goods. Cheapest House. Illustrated Catalogue 3 stamps. MILLINGTON, 13, Houndsditch, London. Cash & Trade only.

CENTRAL HOTEL, BOURNEMOUTH.

JAY'S, LONDON.—Best and Cheapest House in the World for Ladies' Black Materials.

INVIGORATING LAVENDER SALTS (Registered).
THE POPULAR NEW SMELLING SALTS of
THE CROWN PERFUMERY CO.,
177, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON. Sold Everywhere.

AGENTS WANTED.
PATENT SOLIDIFIED OIL.
A. B. FLEMING & CO. (Lim.), EDINBURGH.

JAPANESE and CHINESE GOODS Importers.
A. BENDA & CO., 129 and 130, Houndsditch, London, E.

A BRILLIANT DISCOVERY.
CONSUMPTION IS CURABLE.
THE POWERFUL CURATIVE PROPERTIES OF
LIEBIG'S "IODIZED" COD-LIVER OIL
have been fully demonstrated by the most eminent Physicians in Europe. Recoveries have been effected in every stage of the disease. For General Debility, Scrofula, & Wasting Diseases, this remedy is invaluable. See Testimonials. In imperial half pint bottles, 2/6; pint bottles, 4/6. Of all Chemists, or sent carriage free on receipt of remittance, by Sole Proprietors, F. E. BEESLEY & SONS, 17, Redcross-st., Boro', London, S.E.

NERVOUS and PHYSICAL DEBILITY.
A gentleman, having tried in vain every advertised remedy, has discovered a novel yet simple means of self-cure. He will be happy to forward the particulars to any sufferer on receipt of a stamped and directed envelope.
Address—J. T. SEWELL, Esq., Chiswick, Middlesex.

NERVOUS WEAKNESS & DEBILITY.—A Gentleman who cured himself of Debility, Melancholy, Sleeplessness, Trembling, Unpleasant Dreams, &c., will inform sufferers FREE how HE was CURED. Address, H. Milner, Esq., 28, Marshal-st., Aberdeen.

BOOK OF MEDICAL WONDERS, BOOK should be read by all young men. Important to debilitated nervous sufferers and those about to marry. Free in Envelope for 4 stamps. Publisher's Medical Hall, Fitz. Sq., Sheffield. Established 1850.

C. A. NOBBS & CO., Dyers, &c., 167, Goswell Road, London, to Warehousemen and Drapers for all kinds of Unsaleable Stock; Dyers and Cleaners for the Trade. Write for Price Lists.

BUXTON COLLEGE, DERBYSHIRE.
Send to Head Master for Prospectus. [1534

DR G. H. JONES
SURGEON-DENTIST.
Pamphlet, with list of Awards, Diplomas, Gold and Silver Medals, by post. Consultation free.
57, Great Russell Street, facing entrance to British Museum.

IRON BUILDINGS and ROOFING. New and second-hand Churches, Chapels, Mission and School Rooms, Lawn Tennis, Cricket Pavilions, Cottages, Stables, Farm Buildings, &c. Iron Buildings here on view. 100 tons of Iron Roofing in Stock.



HARBROW'S WORKS, Brixton Station, London, S.W. [1473

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.
CAPITAL:—Authorised, £2,000,000; Paid up, £500,000.
LONDON:—40, Threadneedle Street.
EDINBURGH:—23, St. Andrew's Square.
BRANCHES AND AGENCIES IN

Bombay,	Newera Ellia,	Melbourne,
Calcutta,	Badulla,	Shanghai,
Colombo,	Haldamulle,	Singapore,
Galle,	Hong Kong,	Sydney,
Jaffna,	Madras,	Yokohama,
Kandy,	Mauritius,	Kobe (Hiogo).

The Bank receives money on deposit, buys and sells bills of exchange, makes telegraph transfers, issues letters of credit and circular notes, forwards bills for collection, and transacts banking and agency business generally.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

Fixed for 3, 4, or 5 months at 3 per cent. per annum.			
Fixed for 6 or 9 months ...	4	"	"
Fixed for 1 year certain ...	4½	"	"
Fixed for 2 years ...	4½	"	"
Fixed for 3, 5, or 7 years ...	5	"	"

Current Accounts opened and cheque books supplied. Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum allowed on the minimum monthly balance, if not below £100.
Advances made upon approved Securities.
Pay and Pensions drawn, Insurance Premiums, Club Subscriptions, and other periodical payments made at an uniform commission of ¼ per cent.
Securities bought, sold, and received for safe custody. Interests and Dividends collected.
Drafts issued upon the Bank's Eastern Branches at current rates, free of commission. BILLS collected or negotiated, and every description of exchange business conducted.
The Directors are now receiving applications for 4 per cent. Debentures of £10 and upwards, secured upon the freehold Bank Premises in the City of London and elsewhere.
All necessary information and forms can be obtained by application to the Agency, 23, St. Andrew's Square, Edinburgh; or the Head Office, 40, Threadneedle Street, London.
ROBERT TURNER ROHDE, Secretary.

10 TO 15 PERCENT. bonâ-fide INVESTMENTS. Few SECURITIES for Prompt SALE obtainable to pay above.—Address, CROSBY, Auctioneer, West Hartlepool.

THE SOUTHWARK LEAD & GLASS Co., BOX ALLEY WAREHOUSES, PARK ST., LONDON, S.E. LOWEST CASH PRICES to the Trade for Sheet Lead and Pipe, Sheet Zinc, Tin, Solder, British and Foreign Glass, White Lead, Oils, Colours, Varnishes, Plumbers' Brass Work, Wrought Iron Tubing, Rain Water Castings, &c.
Prices Current on application.

DR G. H. JONES
SURGEON-DENTIST.
Pamphlet, with list of Awards, Diplomas, Gold and Silver Medals, by post. Consultation free.
57, Great Russell Street, facing entrance to British Museum.

EVERY-ONE WHO HAS A GARDEN
SHOULD READ
THE WELL-WRITTEN & PRACTICAL ARTICLES
ENTITLED
"A Year's Work in the Vegetable Garden," "The Culture of Flowers from Seeds,"
Now appearing in
SUTTON'S AMATEUR'S GUIDE FOR 1886.
Price 1/- POST FREE.
Beautifully illustrated with Four Coloured and Toned Plates, and upwards of eighty well-executed Engravings.
SUTTON'S POCKET GARDEN CALENDAR:
"A useful little work." Post free for One Stamp.
SUTTON & SONS
(SEEDSMEN BY ROYAL WARRANTS TO H.M. THE QUEEN AND H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES) READING.

ELECTRIC LIGHT SIMPLY MARVELLOUS.
THE PORTABLE ELECTRIC LIGHT.
Everybody will do without Gas, Candles, or Oil by using
THE PORTABLE ELECTRIC LIGHT.
Gives a fine white Incandescent Light, equal to twelve candles, and burns for three hours without re-charging, which a child can do.
THE PORTABLE ELECTRIC LIGHT.
No danger, no heat, or anything unpleasant.
THE PORTABLE ELECTRIC LIGHT.
The price complete is only 30s., but it is expected that there will be such a great demand for so Marvellous a Light that it will be sold in a very little while at about £10 each. Order early.
P.O. or Cheque to be sent to
OSCAR HIRSCH & CO., 11, QUEEN VICTORIA-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

WARWICK SCHOOL. Fine new buildings, healthy situation in pretty rural scenery. Education classical or modern. Laboratory, carpenter's workshop, sanatorium. Fees £52. Scholarships & Exhibitions annually awarded. Apply to the Headmaster, Rev. J. P. WAY, M.A., late Housemaster at Marlborough College.

COMMERCIAL COLLEGE, KIEL, near HAMBURG.—VILLA MARIA, 55, RINGSTRASSE. Preparation for all Examinations. A sound Education guaranteed. Best German spoken; also good French. Good modern building; fine situation. At present 50 boarders, and 10 German, French, and English masters. Terms inclusive, no extras. Bathing-place. Prospectus and full particulars upon application to J. H. F. TIEDEMANN.

THE "PARKER" UMBRELLA (Registered). 2,000 Silk Umbrellas, 2s. 6d. each. Parker Frames, beautifully Carved and Mounted Sticks, Ladies or Gents, post free. Address, PARKER'S UMBRELLA WORKS, Sheffield. Re-covering neatly done.

Investments paying handsome Dividends, Railway, Tramway, Mining, and other Shares, &c.
STOCKS. GREAT BARGAINS. SHARES.
On Thursday, at 2 precisely, Auction Sales. Catalogues sent free by post.
We invite offers of good Securities. Commission only if Sold.
Stock & Share Auction & Advance Co., Limited,
At 32, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Business Announcements.

POSITIVE REMEDIES.
What is your Disease—What is your Remedy!
For Answer—Read the
Book of Positive Eclectic Remedies for Self-Treatment.
GRATIS and Post Free to any part of the World, on receipt of two Stamps to prepay postage.
THE BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES FOR THE CURE OF ALL DISEASES EVERY HOUSEHOLD, EVERY MAN AND WOMAN SHOULD POSSESS A COPY?
GUIDE-BOOK gives Instructions for Developing and Strengthening the Body. How to Regain Lost Health.
GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE MEDICINES. All Invalids should read the Chapter on General Diseases.
GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES.—The Nervous Dyspeptic will find information for the Cure of their Disease.
GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES must be studied by those who have broken down their health by High Pressure Business Life, City Work, Worry, Overtaxed Energies, Intemperance, and Late Hours.
GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES is the book for those who wish to Regain Lost Health.
GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES.—All who wish to see what Diseases are brought on by Modern Life should read this Work.
GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES give also a List of Diseases resulting from Loss of Vital Power.
GUIDE-BOOK for Diseases of Old Age or Decay of Nature, Nervous Prostration, &c.
GUIDE-BOOK to Cure Constitutional or Hereditary Diseases, Scrofula, Consumption, Pimples, &c.
GUIDE-BOOK of Medicines for the Cure of Diseases of Winter Coughs, Bronchitis, Asthma, &c.
GUIDE-BOOK gives what Medicines will Cure Diseases resulting from Impure Blood, all Skin Diseases, &c.
Self-Treatment is Easy, Safe and Effectual by following the Rules given in this Book.
GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES treats on Wasting Diseases, and gives Positive Remedy for all Diseases. It is a Guide-Book of Positive Medicines, and should be kept in every house as a Guide to the Cure of Diseases. SEND FOR A COPY OF ONE—GRATIS. Two Stamps must be sent to pay the postage.
May be had Direct from the Publishers.
H. & H. SMITH & Co., Positive Remedy Laboratory, 26, Southampton Row London, W.C.

BUY ONLY ENGLISH WATCHES
BENSON'S
(NEW PATENT No. 4658)
'LUDGATE' WATCH
HAS OBTAINED THE
HIGHEST AWARD
OF A GOLD MEDAL
AT THE
INVENTIONS EXHIBITION, 1885.
SILVER £5 5s. GOLD £12 12s.



"LUDGATE" WATCH.

THE "LUDGATE" WATCH IS A
SILVER ENGLISH LEVER
OF MY BEST LONDON MAKE,
WITH
"SPECIAL STRENGTH"
THREE-QUARTER PLATE MOVEMENT,
JEWELLED THROUGHOUT IN RUBIES,
TRUE CHRONOMETER BALANCE,
ADJUSTED FOR EXTREMES,
WITH DAMP AND DUST PROOF
PATENT RING BAND, AND EXTENDED BARREL.
MASSIVE STERLING SILVER DOME CASES, WITH CRYSTAL GLASS FRONT,
Which combines the Strength of the Hunter with the convenience of the Open Face Watch.
WINDS, SETS HANDS AND OPENS AT BACK.
The Immense Superiority in Value, Accuracy, and Durability of the "Ludgate" Watch, to Swiss and American (made in imitation of and sold as English), and to the Old Full-Plate English Lever (still sold by other makers), from the great defects of which the "Ludgate" is exempt,—is proved by the Award of a
GOLD MEDAL,
THE ONLY ONE ADJUDGED TO ENGLISH WATCHES.
THE "LUDGATE" IS OF BETTER QUALITY AND VALUE
THAN ANY £10 WATCH HITHERTO MADE.
THE "LUDGATE" IS MY BEST LONDON MAKE,
STRONG, HANDSOME, AND RELIABLE,
WILL STAND THE HARDEST WEAR AND ROUGHEST USAGE,
AND IS THEREFORE THE BEST WATCH, FOR HOME, INDIAN, & COLONIAL WEAR, BY RAILWAY MEN, MINERS, AND COLONISTS (No. 1, LARGE SIZE),
WORKMEN & ARTISANS (No. 2, AS SKETCH),
GENTLEMEN, OFFICERS AND MEN IN H.M. SERVICES, YOUTHS' & BOYS' (N. 3, SMALL),
WILL BE SENT FREE & SAFE AT MY RISK TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD FOR £5 5s. OR IN 18-CARAT GOLD, CRYSTAL GLASS, CASES, TWELVE GUINEAS (No. 3 SIZE.)
A Remittance by P.O.O., Draft or Cash, must accompany order.
SPECIALLY NOTE that J. W. BENSON is the only Maker of a Three-quarter Plate English Watch for £5 5s., in Silver, or £12 12s., in Gold, and that our Patent "Ludgate," Watch cannot be had through or of any other Watchmaker in the Kingdom. Any infringement of the Patent Rights will be proceeded against.
An Illustrated and Priced Book, explaining the advantages of this Watch over the Full Plate English Watches sold by all other makers, will be sent Post Free on application to
J. W. BENSON,
WATCHMAKER TO H.M. THE QUEEN
THE STEAM FACTORY,
62 AND 64, LUDGATE HILL, E.C.,
AND 25, OLD BOND STREET, W., LONDON.
Consequent upon the award of the GOLD MEDAL, the demand, always great, has so increased as to necessitate more extensive Machinery, which now enables us to EXECUTE ALL ORDERS for the "LUDGATE" WATCH WITHOUT DELAY.
Illustrated Pamphlets of Watches from £2 to £500, Gold and Silver Jewellery, Clocks (House, Chime, and Turret), Electro-plate, and Musical Boxes. Free on application.
CLUB ASSOCIATIONS. — FOREMEN, SECRETARIES OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, AGENTS, and others will find their Incomes considerably increased by establishing Clubs for the New Patent "Ludgate" Watch, as it is worth from £5 to £10 more than any English Watch sold, and therefore bound to supersede all others. Particulars on application. 32v

MONEY. £30 to £1000. Shortest notice. Strict privacy. Direct to lender, Greenway, 132, Gower-st., London.

THE MONT DORE, BOURNEMOUTH.—Under entirely New Management. Revised Tariff, &c. The most perfect system of Mont Dore, Turkish, and every variety of Baths in the United Kingdom, combined with the luxuries & comforts of a first-class Hotel. Prospectus free by post.

MONTE CARLO.—HOTEL DE PARIS.—The finest House on the Littoral; the only one in the Square of the Casino. Magnificent first-class restaurant à la carte. Table d'hote luncheon 4 francs, dinner 6 francs; wine included.

FLORIDA.—Illustrated Edition of the American Settler, with Map, 4d. in stamps. Current weekly number shows how to get house and land and start on £100. Price 1d. (the two 5d.). Address—Anglo-American Times, 24, Basinghall-st., London, E.C. Florida is the field for small means.

IMPROVED INCOME.—Persons of good social position wishing to increase their income without interfering with present engagements, or any outlay whatever, may do so by applying personally, or by a stamped directed envelope, to Messrs. Scott & Vandean, Vigo Chambers, 112, Regent-street, London, W.

Business Announcements.

THE MYSTERY OF
LIFE AND DEATH
AND THE SECRET OF
PERFECT HEALTH TILL OLD AGE.
All wishing information on these subjects should write to PROF. EASTBURN, A.M.S.
American Eclectic Medical Specialist,
13, CAMBRIDGE STREET, GLASGOW, SCOTLAND,
For his Treatise: entitled,
THE CITADEL OF LIFE: HOW TO GUARD IT.
It is sent Free of Charge.
PROF. EASTBURN, A.M.S., from U.S., America, Graduate of Eclectic University, Ohio.
Can be consulted, either personally or by correspondence, on all diseases that afflict the HUMAN BODY. NERVOUS COMPLAINTS a Speciality.
In writing for the above Treatise, any Sufferer requiring advice would find it to his benefit to name complaint, giving symptoms and full details.
Female Diseases also receive the minutest study and care, and are treated with never-failing success.
All communications, &c., must be sent to 13, Cambridge Street, Glasgow, Scotland, as PROF. EASTBURN, A.M.S., can only be found at that address.
All Correspondence Strictly Confidential. 257v

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE".
CLARKE'S
WORLD-FAMED
BLOOD MIXTURE
Trade Mark, "Blood Mixture."
THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER AND RESTORER.
For cleansing and clearing the blood from all impurities, cannot be too highly recommended.
For Scrofula, Scurvy, Skin Diseases, and Sores of all kinds it is a never-failing and permanent cure.
It Cures old Sores.
Cures Ulcerated Sores on the Neck.
Cures Ulcerated Sore Legs.
Cures Blackheads, or pimples on the Face.
Cures Scurvy Sores.
Cures Cancerous Ulcers.
Cures Blood and Skin Diseases.
Cures Glandular Swellings.
Clears the Blood from all impure matter,
From whatever cause arising.
As this mixture is pleasant to the taste and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution for either sex, the Proprietor solicits sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.
THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL PARTS.
Sold in bottles, 2s 9d. each, and in Cases containing six times the quantity, 11s. each—sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the great majority of long standing cases—by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the United Kingdom and the World, or sent to any address on receipt of 33 or 132 stamps by
THE LINCOLN & MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln.

ALLAN,
BOOKSELLER, STATIONER, & BOOKBINDER,
DEAN STREET, COLLINGWOOD STREET,
AND
BLACKETT STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

BOOKS FOR PRESENTS.
YEARLY VOLUMES OF THE
BOYS' AND GIRLS' OWN PAPER, SUNDAY AT HOME LEISURE HOUR, CASSELL'S FAMILY MAGAZINE, THE QUIVER, ROUTLEDGE'S EVERY BOYS' ANNUAL AND EVERY GIRLS' ANNUAL, &c.,
ALL AT THE USUAL REDUCED PRICES.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.
YEARLY VOLUMES OF
OUR DARLINGS, LITTLE WIDE AWAKE, CHATTERBOX, SUNDAY, THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND, INFANTS' MAGAZINE, THE PRIZE BRITISH WORKMAN, BAND OF HOPE, THE CHILD'S COMPANION, THE ADVISER, CHILD'S OWN MAGAZINE, &c.,
ALL AT THE USUAL REDUCED PRICES.

CHILDREN'S COLOURED PICTURE BOOKS—Nursery Rhymes and Tales—on Paper and Cloth. All Prices.

CHILDREN'S PLAIN AND COLOURED PICTURE BOOKS, Special Volumes, Reduced to about half the usual Price.

VALENTINES! VALENTINES!!
ALLAN'S LARGE AND CHOICE STOCK OF
VALENLINES
NOW READY AT ALL PRICES.
SUPPLIED WHOLESALE AT DEAN STREET.

MERRY GAMES—SNAP, HAPPY FAMILY, &c., 6d and 1s.

INNOCENT, AMUSING, AND INSTRUCTIVE THE NEW GAME—
WORD-MAKING AND WORD-TAKING, One Shilling the Box, with Instructions.

All the above are Supplied Wholesale at Dean St.

The Pantomine Box of
NOTE PAPER AND ENVELOPES,
Containing 48 Sheets of Note Paper, and 50 Square Envelopes (White or Coloured).
REDUCED TO 8½d. THE BOX.

BRASS FRAMES! PLUSH FRAMES!!
To hold Cabinet Portraits. Reduced to 8½d. each.

PICTURES FOR SCREENS AND FRAMING, From 1d.
Cut-out Reliefs of Flowers, Fruits, Birds, Butterflies, &c. Hundreds to select from, at 1d. each.

ALBUMS! ALBUMS!! ALBUMS!!!
Large Size, with Floral and other Illuminations, from 4s. 3d. to 21s. each.

BIRTHDAY CARDS. LARGE CHOICE. ALL PRICES.

BIRTHDAY TEXT BOOKS. ALL PRICES.

SCRAP BOOKS. SCRAP BOOKS. SCRAP BOOKS.
All Sizes and Prices.

BIBLES, PRAYER BOOKS, CHURCH HYMN BOOKS, WESLEYAN HYMN BOOKS, SANKEY'S HYMN BOOKS.

A VERY CHEAP LOT OF BOOKS.
1,000 Volumes of the Cottage Library, in Stiff Paper Covers, to be Sold at 3½d. each, or 4 Volumes for 1s. About 25 kinds to chose from. The original price, in Cloth, is 1s.

BOOKS BOUND STRONG, NEAT, & CHEAP.

ALLAN,
BOOKSELLER, &c.,
DEAN STREET, COLLINGWOOD STREET,
AND BLACKETT STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 412v

MILAN (Italy) HOTEL GRANDE BRETAGNE ET REICHMANN.—First-class Hotel, most central, very quiet and comfortable. Strictly moderate second-class charges. Patronised by English and American Travellers. Omnibus meets all trains. Gaze's coupons accepted. Managed by C. ROSSI.

A Monthly Illustrated Penny Magazine.
SUNSHINE FOR 1886.
Edited by the Rev. W. MEYNELL WHITTEMORE, D.D.
A MAGAZINE FOR GIRLS AND BOYS.
The Volume for 1885 is Now READY, Price 1/6, 2/-, and 2/6, according to the style of binding. Previous years are still on sale.

A New Penny Magazine for quite Young Children.
LITTLE STAR.
Edited by the Rev. W. MEYNELL WHITTEMORE, D.D.
Is full of easy words, beautiful pictures—some for painting—and large print. One Penny Monthly. The Editor hopes that the dear little Children will soon love him as much as bigger girls and boys do who are readers of "SUNSHINE."
A beautiful Frontispiece, printed in Colours, will be given with the January Number of "LITTLE STAR."
London: GEORGE STONEMAN, 67, Paternoster Row.
Sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

Business Announcements.

EXTRAORDINARY POPULARITY OF THE
"WHITE"
SEWING MACHINE.
Increased sales day by day in all towns in Great Britain attest the fact that no American Sewing Machine has yet met with so much success.
No other machine can boast of such a record. Wherever exhibited, it has obtained prize medals.
AMSTERDAM INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION,
THE ONLY GOLD MEDAL
FOR MACHINES OF AMERICAN MANUFACTURE.
NICE (FRANCE) INTERNATIONAL,
GOLD MEDAL.
And the crowning triumph at the
INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EXHIBITION,
South Kensington, London,
where, by only exhibiting one sample machine, the judges unanimously awarded another medal for
ABSOLUTE SUPERIORITY, SIMPLICITY, EASY RUNNING & NOISELESSNESS,
which, combined with all practicable improvements, now make the "White" Hand or Treadle Sewing Machine the best satisfying in the world.
Try a "WHITE" before purchasing.
SAMPLES OF WORK AND PRICE LISTS FREE ON APPLICATION.
WHITE SEWING MACHINE CO.
19, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET,
London, E.C.
For Sale by J. M. STELLING, Derwent Street, Blackhill Co. Durham.

GOODALL'S
Household Specialities.

YORKSHIRE RELISH.
The most delicious Sauce in the World.
Enriches Hot Joints, Stews, Chops, Fish, &c.
Blends admirably with all Gravies.
Makes the daintiest dishes more delicious.
Beware of Colourable Imitations.
Sold Everywhere in 6d., 1s., and 2s. Bottles.
GOODALL, BACKHOUSE, & CO., LEEDS.

GOODALL'S CUSTARD POWDER.
Makes delicious Custards without eggs at half the price.
Delicious to Puddings, Tarts, and all kinds of Fruit.
Delicious to everything. Delicious alone. Give it a trial.
Boxes, 6d. and 1s. each, by Grocers, Chemists, &c.
Prepared by GOODALL, BACKHOUSE, & Co., Leeds.

GOODALL'S EGG POWDER.
The only Substitute for Eggs yet discovered.
One Sixpenny Tin will go as far as Twenty Eggs.
Sold in 1d. Packets, 6d. and 1s. Tins.
Prepared by GOODALL, BACKHOUSE, & CO., Leeds.

FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS.
The most Wonderful Blood Purifier and Nerve Tonic ever brought before the public. One dose equal to ten of Cod Liver Oil. Sold by all Patent Medicine Dealers, in Bottles, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 11s., and 33s. each. A Pamphlet will be sent post free on application. [384
Proprietors: GOODALL, BACKHOUSE & CO., Leeds.

EASY. SAFE.
SELL, BUY, OR EXCHANGE.
2d
Buy a Copy, and
The Bazaar,
EXCHANGE & MART.
See for Yourself.
2d
FOR PRIVATE PERSONS.
CHEAP. QUICK.
OFFICE: 170, STRAND, LONDON. [54

CENTRAL HOTEL, BOURNEMOUTH.

MILNERS' SAFES. CHEAPEST AND BEST Safeguard against Fire and Thieves. LONDON, LIVERPOOL & MANCHESTER.

TEA—Really good. From 1s. 4d. per lb. Special quality, 2s. 6 lb. parcels carriage paid on receipt of remittance payable to W. Hughes. In packets for distribution if desired. SAVE Five Shillings in the pound and buy direct. Price lists post free. Established 1861. Dealers who can pay cash supplied at a commission profit.
CITY OF LONDON TEA COMPANY,
NEW BASINGHALL STREET, LONDON, E.C. [1337

Dr. ROBERTS' OINTMENT, CALLED
POOR MAN'S FRIEND
AND
ALTERATIVE PILLS,
Will cure WOUNDS of every description, Burns, Chilblains, and all Skin Diseases.
Of all Chemists, or of BEACH & BARNICOTT, BRIDPORT, DORSET.
Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 11s., and 22s. each. Postage extra. [539

BRIGHT READING FOR EVERY HOME.
Every Home should contain the following Monthly Magazines, in which bright and attractive reading is provided for every member of the family.
THE QUIVER, FOR SUNDAY READING, Monthly, 6d., contains "A library of good reading."—Scotsman.
CASSELL'S MAGAZINE, Monthly, 7d., contains "Good stories, clever pictures, and is unusually attractive."—The Times.
LITTLE FOLKS, Monthly, 6d., is "The best Magazine for children."—Graphic.
*** Full particulars of the above, together with CASSELL'S COMPLETE CATALOGUE, sent post free on application to the Publishers,
CASSELL & COMPANY, Limited; Ludgate Hill, London.

ABERDEEN GRANITE MONUMENTS from £5, carriage paid. Inscriptions accurate and beautiful. Plans and Prices from J. W. LEGGE, Sculptor, ABERDEEN. [504

PARENTS and GUARDIANS SEEKING a PROFESSION for SONS or WARDS can find suitable and Remunerative Openings in TELEGRAPHIC and ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING (including the different systems of electric lighting, and the various other applications of electricity), as well as in the SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH SERVICE.—Apply SECRETARY, 12, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W. [491

SOOTIGINE; or, London Soot & Sewage Manure. Equals Guano. 30/- ton, a Sundry Powder; 1,000 tons selling weekly. ADAMS' Works, Manor Place, HACKNEY, E. Agents wanted.

ASSISTED PASSAGES to CANADA, and EMPLOYMENT guaranteed.—An old Colonist and large Landed Proprietor in Canada will take out with him on April 8th, June 10th, and August 14th, Selected Parties, Gentlemen's Sons, Agricultural and General Labourers, and Female Domestic Servants. Employment guaranteed. Assisted Passages to Agricultural Labourers and Female Domestic Servants, £3; and others classes, £4. For further particulars, apply to Sewell and Crowther, 18, Cockspur Street, London, S.W. Also Weekly Departures for Canada unaccompanied, but at assisted rates.

NEW ZEALAND.
LAND FOR SALE OR LEASE IN THE NORTHERN ISLAND.
THE New Zealand Thames Valley Land Company, Limited, offer on terms of deferred payment for freeholds, or on lease with option of purchase, portions of their property suitable for agricultural or pastoral settlement. The Company also ... [illegible] ... special accommodation and facilities for young men ... [illegible] ... to acquire farming experience in New Zealand.
C. DUGALD BUCKLER, Secretary.
[illegible] Street, London, E.C.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this body, held at the Bank Buildings, Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday evening, was attended by Messrs Jas. Annandale, J.P. (chairman), T. Siddell, R. Murray, F. Priestman, J. Eltringham, A. H. Turner, H. Carss, J. Dowson, and the Clerk (Mr J. Booth).

THE REMOVAL OF A FEVER PATIENT.

The Board, before proceeding to the regular business, finally disposed of the subject of the unlawful removal of a girl suffering from scarlet fever from Shotley Bridge to Newcastle, about three months ago. Mrs Renwick, of Shieldfield, the mother of the patient, attended the meeting, and offered an explanation and apology for her strange conduct, at the same time expressing her deep sorrow at what had taken place.

The Board accepted the explanation, and determined not to take further notice of the episode; the CHAIRMAN, however, feeling it is duty to caution Mrs Renwick as to her future conduct, and counselling her to be more careful, as if a similar instance cropped up the Board would be obliged to institute legal proceedings against the offenders.

THE SURVEYOR'S PAYBILL.

The Finance Committee recommended the payment of the Surveyor's monthly pay-sheet, which amounted to £124 12s 8d.

Mr SIDDELL moved, and Mr PRIESTMAN seconded, that a cheque be drawn for this sum.

FINANCE AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

This Committee further reported as below:—

A plan and estimate from James Hope, Blackhill, was presented to us, which we quite approved of. The price is much less than the original design for the drinking fountain in Front Street, Shotley Bridge. The Surveyor thinks that with this design the work could be completed for about £30.

With respect to the lighting of Dixon Street, the Committee would suggest that the lamp now in Murray Street be removed to the end of that street to show a light into Watson Street if the Gas Company will lay the mains to the same; then the Committee recommend an extra lamp to be placed in Dixon Street at the end of Murray Street.

W. WILSON (chairman).

EXTRA LAMP IN DIXON STREET.

The recommendation of the Committee with respect to the removal of the lamp to Dixon Street was confirmed, on the motion of Mr PRIESTMAN, seconded by Mr CARSS, the Clerk being instructed to write to the Gas Company asking them to extend their mains to that point.

THE FOUNTAIN AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

A plan of the proposed fountain, 8 feet high, was submitted. The Board were at liberty to select the stone for the bed, providing it is not freestone. The cost of the same is estimated not to exceed £32.

Mr MURRAY proposed that the recommendation of the Committee be adopted.

Mr CARSS suggested that the matter should stand over until the spring of the year, when they had the money raised.

The CHAIRMAN said the question ought to be deferred until they commenced with the widening of the Church Bank, as they required the soil for filling-up the well.

Mr MURRAY explained that if Mr Hope secured the contract now, he could not get the fountain erected before next May.

Mr SIDDELL: I move that the matter stand over for three months.

Mr CARSS: The widening of the Church Bank is just as urgent as the fountain.

Mr DOWSON: And the Derwent Street footpaths.

Mr SIDDELL: The Church Bank is not poisoning anybody. It was said at the last meeting that the water in the well was poisoning the folks at Shotley Bridge.

Mr CARSS: We haven't the money and are consequently prevented from commencing with the fountain at once. I would suggest that we consider the cost in the next estimate, and let the matter rest for awhile.

Mr ELTRINGHAM moved that the minute relating to the fountain be continued for another month.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Committee had succeeded in limiting the cost to £32, and according to the resolution passed by the last Board they were requested to arrange for the work being completed. The Committee had carefully abstained from making any recommendation, but desired that the feelings of the Board should be consulted on the matter.

Mr ELTRINGHAM was under the impression that the instructions of the Committee were to procure plans and estimates for the price of a fountain to be erected at a cost not exceeding £30, and were not empowered to proceed with the work, because they were told very plainly that they would have no money in hand until the next rate was levied.

Mr TURNER held a similar opinion.

Mr CARSS said if the Board thought it best to postpone the execution of the work for a couple of months no harm would be done. The minute could stand.

Mr ELTRINGHAM maintained that the Committee had finished their labours when they had got plans and estimates at a reduced cost.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the minute would read both ways.

Mr CARSS suggested that the work of erecting the fountain should be deferred until provision is made for the same in the next rate.

Mr SIDDELL: Before you can submit that resolution, Mr Chairman, you will have to rescind the previous minute.

Mr CARSS: The two propositions are not contradictory.

Mr SIDDELL: It is in direct contradiction to the other minute to allow the work to remain in abeyance for two or three months. You cannot submit the resolution.

Mr ELTRINGHAM seconded the motion, remarking that the Board had not accepted Mr Hope's tender, and he believed that if the subject only came before the public they might have better designs at even a less cost.

Mr SIDDELL: I move that the matter stand over for three months. (Laughter.)

Mr CARSS: Postponing the subject for three months is like adjourning it *sine die*. (More laughter.)

Mr SIDDELL: We have no money to do the work. What's the use of going on with it?

The motion was carried.

THE AUDITOR'S SURCHARGE.

The Clerk read a communication received from the Local Government Board touching the surcharge of £3 8s 5d by Mr Hockin on the Surveyor for some workmen's tools repaired or supplied by Mr Andrew Houliston. The reason the auditor demurred to the payment of this sum was that the money was paid out of a rate made more than six months after the liability was incurred; also that the Board had no funds wherewith they could legally pay such account. The Imperial authorities held that the auditor was justified in disallowing the amount to the Surveyor, but under the circumstances of the case their Lordships agreed to remit the amount due to Mr Dixon. (Laughter.)

The Clerk: The mountain has turned into a molehill. (Laughter.)

THE PUBLIC PARK QUESTION.

The Clerk, having read a letter from the Local Government Board, intimating that there were no legal obstacles in the way of the Board embarking upon the public park and recreation ground scheme, then explained that the Board had agreed to accept the Consett Iron Company's offer, and their next step was to obtain the Company's consent to the alterations in the terms of the agreement as suggested.

In the discussion which ensued, Mr ELTRINGHAM enquired if it was the intention of the Local Board to expend any money upon this undertaking?

Mr SIDDELL replied that the Boards were bound to conform to the agreement with the Consett Iron Company. They would have to properly fence in the park, and lay out the place as a public recreation ground.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said he particularly asked, at the joint meeting at Consett, if there was any clause in the agreement which compelled the Boards to spend any money on the park, and he was distinctly told that they need not spend a single penny.

Mr SIDDELL: You'll find out different to that.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: If that is so, then I object to the scheme altogether.

The Clerk observed that Mr Eltringham put the question at Consett, and he (Mr Booth) replied that there was nothing specified in the agreement compelling the Boards to spend any money except the payment of a nominal rental of 1s a-year. It was left entirely to the discretion of the two Boards whether they felt disposed to expend any money thereon. If the two Boards got to loggerheads as to the amount to be spent, then the dispute would be referred to the Consett Company's surveyor to arbitrate upon.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Supposing the Consett Local Board desire to expend £300 and this Board refuses to lay out a single penny, will this matter be referred to the Consett Iron Company to decide?

Mr CARSS: I should say certainly not. It is a matter purely affecting the two Boards.

Mr SIDDELL: Do you think the Consett Company are going to turn over to you 23 acres of land on a lease of 21 years, if you intend to let it lie waste, without erecting proper fences, and not spending a farthing in laying out the ground for recreative purposes?

Mr ELTRINGHAM: If that is so, then I don't want the recreation ground at all. It's of no use to me.

Mr SIDDELL: If we accept the ground, we must do our part, and fulfil the terms of the agreement.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I just want to know what our duty is in regard to the recreation ground before the agreement is sealed?

Mr SIDDELL: If you don't feel inclined to spend any money over it, what is the use of wasting our time in discussing the matter? Why don't you kick the thing overboard at once, and be done with it?

Mr ELTRINGHAM said if it was the intention of the Board to incur any outlay in this scheme, there were many ratepayers, who had enough to do these hard times to struggle for a livelihood, who would certainly object to the Board having anything to do with the contemplated park scheme; and he knew there were members on that Board who did not feel inclined to spend much money over it.

Mr MURRAY: This discussion is rather premature. We have not settled about the agreement yet.

Mr CARSS: I would suggest that we do one thing at once. I propose that we execute this lease.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: We had better not execute the lease until we know what the lease enforces us to perform.

Mr SIDDELL: I don't think it a proper course to discuss the question of finances before this Board. This subject ought to be raised at a meeting of the joint Boards at Consett.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: It is very necessary for us to know what we shall have to do when we get possession of the ground. It is a ratepayers' question, and I contend that this Board has a right to discuss the matter, and ascertain what its actual duties are in regard to the park scheme.

Mr SIDDELL: Will you please raise your question at a meeting of the two Boards, and then accept these conditions?

Mr ELTRINGHAM: This Board has a perfect right to say whether it will accept the terms or not.

Mr SIDDELL: We have already agreed with the Consett Iron Company to accept the ground on the conditions laid down.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: No; we have not. The agreement has not been sealed. We have accepted the Consett Company's offer, because we could not reasonably refuse it. But I want to know what our responsibilities are when we secure the ground?

Mr SIDDELL enquired if it was likely that the Consett Company would hand over the ground to the control of the two Boards when they knew it was their intention not to spend a single farthing upon it?

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I think it will when it comes before an arbitrator.

Mr SIDDELL: That just bears out what I have said.

Mr TURNER stated that the agreement only compelled them to take over the ground and maintain it solely for recreative purposes, and keep up the fences.

The Clerk's idea was to adopt a middle course. His own opinion was that the two Boards would not be keeping faith with the Consett Iron Company if they simply accepted the lease and were determined in their own mind not to spend anything upon the ground in the shape of making it available as a place of recreation. In accordance with the terms of the lease the ground was to be entirely preserved for recreative purposes. They would not be fulfilling the conditions if they said to the Consett Company, "We are much obliged to you for giving us this ground for a term of 21 years, but we don't intend to spend any money upon it." But there was a vast difference between this course and spending several hundreds upon the park. It is then a matter of the amount the two Boards are prepared to spend. A very moderate expenditure in the removal of fences, taking down those old walls, constructing a few paths, and placing seats here and there, so as to render it in the truest sense a public recreation ground—then they would be abiding by the terms of the lease. If it was thought that it was not desirable to have a recreation ground, then they would go back and rescind the resolution passed at the last meeting, for it was then resolved to accept the offer of the Company as to the recreation ground. If they did nothing to the park, the Consett Company would be able to say that they were not keeping faith with them:

Mr DOWSON: Supposing the Consett Board decided to spend much more money than we do, what will be the upshot? Will that be referred to the Consett Company?

The Clerk: That will simply be a dispute between the two Boards. If the Consett Board wish to expend more money on the place than is requisite to make it available for the purposes of recreation, that would be an attempt to force them into laying out more money than they cared to do, and that would simply be a dispute between the two Boards concerned, and would not affect the agreement. If both Boards, however, resolved not to spend a single farthing, then such a step would bring them under the terms of the agreement.

Mr CARSS pointed out that the expenditure would be considered at the meetings of the two Boards, and the outlay to be involved would be settled by the majority of the members then present. The Consett Board could not act without that Board. If a majority of the two Boards thought fit to spend £200 to put the place in a decent state, he supposed the majority would carry such a proposal.

After further discussion, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr MURRAY, seconded by Mr CARSS, that a favourable reply having been received from the Local Government Board, the Clerk be instructed to settle the draft lease with the Consett Iron Company, in conjunction with the Clerk to the Consett Board, and arrange for a meeting of the joint Boards to consider the draft lease and sign the same.

The resolution was carried, without dissent.

Mr SIDDELL said he would like to have seen the motion carried unanimously, but two of the members did not hold up their hands for it.

The CHAIRMAN said there was no opposition, so he thought it was carried unanimously.

Mr DOWSON explained that he would like to see the park scheme carried out, but not any large sum of money expended upon it.

Mr SIDDELL: That is just my view.

AN ABOMINABLE NUISANCE: A STRONG BOTTLE OF "WHISKEY" (?)

The subjoined report was read:—

The Building and Sanitary Committee held a meeting at Mr Coulson's house at Shotley Bridge, on Saturday, January 19th, at three p.m. Present: Messrs W. Wheatley, H. Carss, J. Eltringham, and Dr Geo. Renton, Deputy Medical Officer, and Mr J. Dixon, Surveyor.

A nuisance having been reported in the front room of Mr Coulson's house, your Committee examined the place, and found a pool of very filthy-looking water standing below the floor at the corner of the room next Mr Brown's dwelling. We examined and tested the whole of the drains, sinks, and water-closet on Mr Coulson's premises, and found them all right. We were satisfied that the nuisance was not caused by Mr Coulson's own drains. We next visited the adjoining property belonging to Mr Wm. Brown, and after testing his water-closet, and also putting some water down in the bottom of the water-closet, and likewise in the corner of the yard where the sink was fixed previously, the water made its way through the wall into Mr Coulson's house very quickly, and we were satisfied that this was the cause of the nuisance. The yard and bottom of the water-closet are both broken up, and the yard surface falls towards Mr Coulson's house end. The water-closet is also fixed next the corner of Mr Coulson's house. The Medical Officer having examined the place, recommended a sample of the water to be taken for analysis. We therefore instructed the Inspector to take a sample and send away to Mr Stock.

To remedy the evil complained of, we recommend the following works to be done at once:—That the spouts of the water-closet and adjoining buildings be put in order, and have proper downpipes, to be placed so that the water will go into the drain. The whole of the yard to be taken up, and the ground next to Mr Coulson's house end excavated to the depth required to remove all the earth that is mixed with sewerage matter. The length of the yard and water-closet to be filled in with good puddled clay at least 18in. thick from the wall, and to 6in. below the floor level, the remaining 6in. thickness to be made up of cement concrete to the floor level of the water-closet and yard 12in. wide; and the other portion of the water-closet floor and yard to be properly cemented with a good and sufficient fall from the house to the sink in the yard. We also recommend that the drain be properly examined when the yard is opened out, and that the joints of the pipes be cemented, and if the drain has not a sufficient fall, to be taken up and relaid properly, with a sufficient fall to the main sewer, and that this work be carried out to the satisfaction of your Inspector.

JOS. ELTRINGHAM, Chairman.

January 15th, 1886.

Also the following report from the Medical Officer was read:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—On Saturday, January 9th inst., in conjunction with your Sanitary Committee, I made an inspection of the premises occupied by Mr Joseph Coulson, Front Street, Shotley Bridge, to inquire into the existence of an alleged nuisance. I found that a nuisance, detrimental to health, does undoubtedly exist under the boarding of the front sitting room, on the ground floor; there was a collection of thick fluid, having all the appearance and odour of sewerage matter. For the guidance of the Sanitary Committee in their investigation of this case, I have suggested that samples of this fluid be submitted to the public analyst, in order to determine its exact nature. When that has been done, the Committee can proceed with confidence to the origin of this nuisance.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

GEORGE RENTON, M.D.,
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

Mr CARSS: Well, in the absence of the analyst's report touching the sample, we cannot discuss the subject to-night.

The Inspector: I beg your pardon, gentlemen; the Railway Company has lost the bottle containing the stuff—(laughter)—and are now telegraphing all over the country to find it. (More laughter.) I sent the bottle away to Darlington last Monday. It was properly directed and safely packed.

Mr ELTRINGHAM (jocularly): There is not the slightest doubt that somebody must have stolen it, thinking it was a bottle of whiskey. (Roars of laughter.)

Mr SIDDELL: It would taste rather strong, I should think. (Laughter.)

Mr CARSS (humorously): Someone would get a nice mouthful. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr ELTRINGHAM: It was about the same colour as Irish whiskey, and smelt quite as strong (loud laughter); only it was not quite so clear. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN regarded it as a serious matter that a nuisance, which the doctor affirmed was injurious to the health of the public, should be allowed to exist for so long on Mr Coulson's premises, and he urged that immediate action should be taken.

Mr CARSS said they were not satisfied that the fluid was sewage.

Mr ELTRINGHAM retorted that Mr Wheatley, the Medical Officer, and himself considered it was nothing else but sewage. There was no doubt a great quantity of water was put in, but it was far from being clear.

The CHAIRMAN stated that it was evident the nuisance arose from the leakage of stuff from one property to another.

Mr CARSS replied that there might be percolations through the wall from one property to the other. There was nothing but clear water running through at the time of their visit.

After the subject had been fully discussed, it was resolved that the Inspector should be instructed to serve a notice on Mr Brown, requesting him to carry out forthwith the foregoing recommendations of the Committee, with a view to remedying the nuisance complained of by Mr Coulson.

THE BRIDGE AT SHOTLEY.

Complaint having been made respecting the filthy condition of the road over the bridge near the Slonks, a letter was read from Mr Crozier to the effect that the road was kept clean, although not so well as those on the Local Board districts; but he offered to let the Board repair this piece of road at a price so much per yard, according to the cost of the maintainance of the other portions of the main road under the control of the Board.

A resolution was carried, on the motion of Mr ELTRINGHAM, seconded by Mr MURRAY, that the Clerk be directed to write to the County Surveyor informing him that the Local Board were willing to take over that portion of the road at the same cost per yard as the Durham Main Road.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month I have inspected your district many times. I find on the whole your ashpits well cleaned out, and the district generally I consider in a good sanitary condition.

I have been requested by Mr Joseph Coulson to inspect his house on several occasions during last month. By the instructions of Mr Booth, I called the Sanitary Committee together to inspect these premises, in conjunction with the Medical Officer (Dr Geo. Renton). The inspection took place on the 9th of this month. From what the Committee saw at this place, they gave me orders to take a sample of the liquid flowing into Mr Coulson's house. I took a sample in the presence of the Committee and sent it to Mr Stock, the county analyst. Your Committee will also report on this matter.

The plan belonging to Mr W. Surtees, which was before the Board at last meeting, has been returned. He has sent me a written notice to say that he is willing to carry out the instructions of your Board. Your Building Committee have examined plans for a new villa intended to be built in the common quarry, Blackfine. They will report upon this matter.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Benfieldside, January 20th, 1886. JOHN DIXON.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month, your workmen have been employed on your several highways and streets, sweeping and laying-on materials. A large quantity of ashes have been placed on to your footpaths and roads during the frosty weather.

I have laid before your Highway Committee a plan and estimate of a stone drinking fountain, suitable to erect at Shotley Bridge. They will report on this matter.

Your Lighting Committee have inspected Dixon Street, Blackfine, with regard to erecting an extra lamp in this street, and will report thereon.

The Consett Iron Company are progressing with the erection of the spouts at Bottle Bank and other streets at Blackhill, as fast as the weather will allow them. Mr Raw has not commenced with his work yet.

Mr Booth has handed over a letter to me he has received from Mr Crozier, County Surveyor. I lay this letter before the Board to see if it is the wish of the Board to take this matter up.

In conjunction with Mr Bruce, the Gas Company's agent, I have taken the meters belonging to your lamps during the month.

I have collected and paid to treasurer, during the month, the following sum:—General district rate, £14 9s 10d.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant, JOHN DIXON.

Benfieldside, January 20th, 1886.

These reports were adopted.

THE BUILDING AND SEWAGE COMMITTEE

Further reported as follows:—

Plans were examined for a villa intended to be built in the North Common Quarry, Blackfine, for Mr Joliffe, of Newcastle. We cannot recommend these plans to be passed for the following reasons: (1) The block plan is not prepared according to the bye-laws. (2) The party walls are not of sufficient thickness. (3) The crowns in roof are not of sufficient height. (4) The sections do not show levels taken from any known detour line. (5) No description as to construction of cesspool given or levels of drains. (6) Also that the building is intended to be erected in a common quarry. JOS. ELTRINGHAM, convener.

PLANS.

Mr William Surtees, Benfieldside Row, having written to the Board, intimating his willingness to set his wash-house back 10 feet from the buildings, in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, the plan was approved of.

The Clerk was authorised to return the plans of Mr Jolliffe, of Newcastle, for a villa, stating the reasons the Board refused to adopt the same.

The Board adjourned just before eight o'clock.

Market Reports.

NEWCASTLE FLOUR, Saturday—Prices:—Hungarian 2s 0d; American, 1s 9d; No. 1 superfines, 1s 8d; superfines, 0s 0d; fines, 1s 6d; households, 1s 4d; seconds, 0s 0d; ryemeal, 1s 6d; wheatmeal, 1s 6d. Oatmeals—English, 2s 2d; Scotch, 2s 0d per stone; 4lb. loaf, 6d.

NEWCASTLE FRUIT AND POTATO, Saturday.—Prices: Scotch potatoes, 6d to 8d; onions, 10d to 1s per stone; figs, 4d to 8d per lb; cauliflowers, 1½d to 2½d each; pears, 2d to 4d per lb; apples, 1s to 1s 6d per stone; green grapes, 6d per lb.; cabbages, Roots, and other classes at late rates.

NEWCASTLE MEAT AND POULTRY, Saturday—

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Prime large beef	0 9 to	0 11	Pigeons, pr couple	1 6 to	2 0
Prime mutton	0 11	1 0	Turkeys, per lb.	1 2	0 0
Small Pork	0 9	0 11	Turkeys, poults	0 0	0 0
Veal	0 8	0 9	Partridges, brace	2 6	3 6
Lamb per lb	0 10	0 11	Pheasants	7 6	8 6
American beef	0 2½	0 6	Geese, per lb	0 10	0 0
" mutton	0 5	0 9	Goslings, each	0 0	0 0
" lamb	0 0	0 0	Hares, each	3 6	4 6
" veal	0 7	0 9½	Leverets	2 6	3 0
" pork	0 8	0 9	Rabbits, couple	2 6	3 0
Hens, each	1 0	1 9	Ptarmigan, cple	0 0	0 0
Ducks, per couple	6 0	7 0	Black Game, brce	5 0	6 6
Ducklings, per cp.	0 0	0 0	English fresh butter, per lb	1 3	1 6
Chickens	5 6	6 6	Fresh eggs 12 for 1s.		
Wildducks brace	0 0	0 0	Salmon, per lb	0 0	0 0
Quails, per couple	0 0	0 0	Do. trout	0 0	0 0
Grouse, per cple	0 0	0 0			

DURHAM PROVISION, Saturday.—Beef, 6d to 8½d. mutton, 6d to 8d; veal, 7d to 8d; bacon, 3d to 5d ham, 5d to 6d; cheese, 6d to 0d; lard, 6d to 0d per lb; Chickens, 2s 0d to 2s 6d; hens, 1s 6d to 2s 0d; ducks, 2s to 2s 9d; turkeys, 7s 6d to 8s; geese, 8s 0d to 9s; hares, 3s 6d to 4s each; pigeons, 1s 0d to 1s 3d per couple; rabbits, 2s 0d to 3s 6d per couple; butter, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; do. salt, 1s to 1s 2d; butterine, 9d to 10d per lb; eggs, 7 to 8 for 1s; grapes, foreign, 4d to 8d; pears, 2d to 0d; tomatoes, 9d to 1s per lb; figs, 4d to 5d; prunes, 4d per lb; pomegranets, 1s 6d to 2s; apples, 2s to 2s 6d; onions, 1s 6d to 1s 10d; potatoes, 6d to d 9per stone.

HEXHAM PROVISIONS, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb; eggs, 7 to 8 for 1s; potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone; lemons, 0d; pears, 2d to 4d per lb; apples, 2s to 0s 0d per st; onions, 6d to 1s 0d per stone; carrots, 8d per stone; oranges, 6d to 1s per dozen; cabbages, 1d each; cucumbers, 8d to 10d each; chickens, 2s 9d to 3s 0d each; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d each; geese, 8½d to 9d per lb; rabbits, 2s 8d to 3s per couple; leverets, 3s to 3s 6d; hares, 3s 6d to 4s 6d each; partridges, 3s to 3s 3d per brace.

NEWCASTLE HAY AND STRAW, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £4 0s to £4 18s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 0s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s per ton; clover hay, £6 0s to £0; wheat straw, 1s 11d to 2s 5d; barley straw, 1s 9d to 2s 0d; oat straw, 2s 2d to 2s 4d per thrave; carts of hay at market, 150; straw, 36.

NEWCASTLE CORN, Tuesday.—Arrivals into Newcastle, week ending January 18th, 1886:—Coast and rail—Wheat, 3,083; maize, —; barley, 375; oats, 355; beans, 285; peas, 106; flour, 1,745. Foreign—Wheat, —; maize, 5,475; barley, 200; oats, 50; rye, —; flour, 1,448 qrs. The arrivals of wheat from the coast are fair, with nothing from abroad. At this day's market there was very little business doing owing to the holidays, and prices for all descriptions of wheat were unchanged. Maize dull, with prices tending downwards. Scotch oats, with small supplies, were steady; foreign dull. Malting barley with hardly any inquiry. Beans and peas 3d cheaper. Feeding barley firm. Flour 6d per sack lower.

NEWCASTLE, Tuesday.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 141 head of cattle and 329 pigs from Aberdeen and the North-East Coast of Scotland, 212 beasts and 140 pigs from Ireland; 1,202 beasts, 38 calves, and 206 sheep from foreign countries.

Respecting quality, that of cattle was middling, while that of sheep was fairly good.

40 head of cattle went south yesterday to Manchester, 20 to Wakefield, and 20 to London.

The supply of beef comprised 2,533 head. The better sorts sold well up, but the middling and inferior were a slow dull trade, with a good demand for the South; at the close of business a few lots were left over.

The number of sheep shown was 4 886. The mutton trade was steady, and late rates were well supported. At the finish all changed hands, a few lots being bought by the South men.

Pigs: 750 were shown. There is no change to note in the pork trade to-day.

PRICES FOR THIS DAY SINKING THE OFFAL.

Beasts, prime heifers, per stone	8s 0d	to	8s 3d
Secondary sorts	7s 6d	...	7s 9d
Good steers	7s 9d	...	8s 0d
Middling Sorts	7s 3d	...	7s 6d
Cows and inferior	6s 0d	...	6s 6d
Pigs	5s 6d	...	8s 6d
Sheep, small, per lb	0s 7¾d	...	0s 8d
Sheep, large fat, per lb.	0s 7¼d	...	0s 7½d
Tups and Ewes	0s 5½d	...	0s 6d

Nos. shown:—Cattle, 2,533; sheep, 4,886; pigs, 750.

SECOND EDITION, with PENCIL-PHOTO VIGNETTES
1 vol., cloth, bevelled boards, crown 8vo. Price 5s.

"IN SUNNY SWITZERLAND,"
By ROWLAND GREY.

"Can be taken up with pleasure."—*Saturday Review.*
"Artistic, natural, the tone of the whole book is as pure and healthy as its style is graceful."—*Standard.*
"Bright and fresh. A creditable book."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*
"Picturesque and faithful."—*Globe.*
"Attractive for its vivid pictures of Swiss country."—*Bell's Life.*
London: KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, & CO., 1, Paternoster Sq.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine dealers everywhere at 1s. 1½d. per bottle.

Railway Time Table.

CONSETT BRANCH.

WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE Dep.	6 10	9 40	11 0	12 20	2 30	5 25	7 30
Scotswood "	6 17	9 47	11 7	12 27	2 37	5 27	7 37
Swalwell "	6 24	9 54	11 14	12 34	2 43	5 32	7 44
Rowlands Gill "	6 34	10 4	11 24	12 44	2 53	5 49	7 54
Lintz Green "	6 40	10 11	11 30	12 50	2 59	5 55	8 0
Ebchester "	6 53	10 20	11 40	1 0	3 12	6 5	8 13
Shotley Bridge "	6 59	10 24	11 44	1 4	3 18	6 9	8 19
CONSETT Arr.	7 5	10 30	11 50	1 10	3 24	6 15	8 25

CONSETT Dep.	7 10	10 32	...	1 12	3 28	...	6 33
Knitsley "	7 21	10 43	...	1 22	3 36	...	6 44
Lanchester "	7 30	10 53	...	1 32	3 45	...	6 53
Witton Gilbert "	7 38	11 1	...	1 40	3 53	...	7 1
Aldin Grange "	7 45	11 9	...	1 47	4 0	...	7 9
DURHAM Arr.	7 50	11 15	...	1 52	4 5	...	7 15

	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
DURHAM Dep.	7 25	11 45	2 35	5 25	8 10
Aldin Grange "	7 32	11 52	2 41	5 32	8 17
Witton Gilbert "	7 40	12 0	2 48	5 40	8 25
Lanchester "	7 50	12 10	2 54	5 50	8 35
Knitsley "	8 2	12 20	3 8	6 0	8 45
CONSETT Arr.	8 12	12 30	3 18	6 10	8 55

CONSETT Dep.	8 15	9 10	12 33	3 25	6 15	9 2
Shotley Bridge "	8 20	9 15	12 38	3 30	6 20	9 7
Ebchester "	8 24	9 19	12 42	3 34	6 24	9 12
Lintz Green "	8 34	9 29	12 50	3 44	6 33	9 22
Rowlands Gill "	8 39	9 34	12 55	3 50	6 38	9 28
Swalwell "	8 47	9 42	1 3	3 57	6 48	9 36
Scotswood "	8 54	9 49	1 9	4 4	6 53	9 43
NEWCASTLE Ar.	9 5	10 0	1 20	4 15	7 0	9 53

SUNDAYS.

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE	7 30	7 20	CONSETT ...dep.	8 35	8 20
Scotswood	7 37	7 27	Shotley Bridge	8 40	8 25
Swalwell	7 44	7 34	Ebchester	8 44	8 29
Rowlands Gill	7 54	7 44	Lintz Green	8 54	8 39
Lintz Green	8 0	7 50	Rowlands Gill	8 59	8 44
Ebchester	8 13	8 0	Swalwell	9 8	8 53
Shotley Bridge	8 19	8 4	Scotswood	9 14	8 59
CONSETT ...arr.	8 25	8 10	NEWCASTLE ar.	9 25	9 10

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.

First second, and third class return tickets will be issued on Saturdays by the following trains:—

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.
NEWCASTLE	7 10	4 15	DURHAM ...dep.	7 55
Scotswood	7 17	4 22	Aldin Grange	8 1
Swalwell	7 24	4 30	Witton Gilbert	8 9
Rowlands Gill	7 34	4 40	Lanchester	8 20
Lintz Green	7 40	4 46	Knitsley	8 32
Ebchester	7 53	4 59	CONSETT and a	8 45
Shotley Bridge	7 59	5 5	BLACKHILL d	8 50
CONSETT and a	8 5	5 12	Shotley Bridge	8 55
BLACKHILL d	9 20		Ebchester	8 59
Knitsley	9 32		Lintz Green	9 9
Lanchester	9 41		Rowlands Gill	9 15
Witton Gilbert	9 50		Swalwell	9 22
Aldin Grange	9 59		Scotswood	9 29
DURHAM ...arr	10 5		NEWCASTLE dp	9 40

FLORILINE!—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH.—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicate to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d., of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London.

CARNIVAL IN ROME.

In Roman Catholic countries the period of Lent is observed by fasting. In anticipation, however, of this "mortification of the flesh," the people are permitted first to indulge in a "Carnival," or, in other words, to give themselves over for several days to the wildest fun and merry-making. The time for the Carnival commences on Epiphany, that is, the 6th of January, and the scenes that then begins to be witnessed in the streets of Rome and other great Roman Catholic cities is a most exciting one.

An old writer describing Carnival in Rome states that every man let himself loose to the maddest of merriments, marching wildly up and down in all forms of masks and disguises; each man striving to outdo his neighbour in strange pranks, in which even the clergy were wont to be allowed to share. In modern Rome, the masquerading in the streets and all the out-of-door amusements are limited to eight days, during which the grotesque maskers, amid laughter and jest, pelt each other with sugar-plums and bouquets. These are poured from baskets from the balconies down upon the maskers in carriages and afoot; and they, in their turn, pelt the company at the windows.

The races, however, are one of the most striking out-of-door scenes. The horses are without riders, but have spurs, sheets of tin, and all sorts of things hung about them to urge them onward. Across the end of the Piazza del Populo is stretched a rope, in a line with which the horses are brought up; in a second or two the rope is let go and away the horses fly at a fearful rate down the Corso, which is crowded with people, among whom the plunging and kicking of the steeds often produce serious damage.

The closing revel of the Carnival is the *moccoletti*, when the sport consists in the crowd carrying lighted tapers, and trying, amid the shouts and excitement, to put out each other's taper with a handkerchief or towel. M. Dumas, in his story, "The Count of Monte Christo," gives the following vivid description of this strange scene:—

"The *moccolo*, or *moccoletti*, are candles, which vary in size from the paschal taper to the rushlight, and causes the actors of the great scene which terminates the Carnival two different subjects of anxiety; first, how to keep their *moccoletti* lighted; secondly, how to put out the *moccoletti* of others. The *moccoli* is kindled by approaching it to a light. But who can describe the thousand means of extinguishing the *moccoletti*? The gigantic bellows, the monstrous extinguishers, the superhuman fans. The night was rapidly approaching; and already, at the shrill cry of "Moccoletti!" repeated by the shrill voices of a thousand venders, two or three stars began to twinkle among the crowd. This was the signal. In about ten minutes fifty thousand lights fluttered on every side, descending from the Palais de Venise to the Plaza del Populo, and mounting from the Plaza del Populo to the Palais de Venise. It seemed the *fête* of Jack-o'-Lanterns. It is impossible to form any idea of it without having seen it. Suppose all the stars descended from the sky, and mingled in a wild dance on the surface of the earth; the whole accompanied by cries such as are never heard in any other part of the world. The *facchino* follows the prince, the *transtevere* the citizen; everyone blowing, extinguishing, relighting. This flaming race continued for two hours; the Rue du Cour was light as day, and the features of the spectators on the third and fourth stories were plainly visible. Suddenly a bell sounded, which gives the signal for the Carnival to close, and at the same instant all the *moccoletti* were extinguished as if by enchantment. It seemed as though one immense blast of wind had extinguished them all. No sound was audible save that of the carriages which conveyed the maskers home; nothing was visible save a few lights that gleamed behind the windows. The Carnival was over."

RUBIES AND DIAMONDS.

Outward ornaments are most in keeping when they are but external types of the gentle graces which adorn the inward character of their wearer, and bearing this in mind we cannot but feel as we read the following story that our noble Queen, in making the beautiful present of which it speaks, did honour to herself as well as to the sweet lady of whose brave unselfishness it was so appropriate a recognition.

Madame Christine Nilsson, the celebrated singer, had been asked by some ladies who keep a school for poor girls, if she would be so kind as to sing once to those little ones, as it would make an impression on them which they would never forget.

Only too happy to do so much good with so little trouble, Madame Nilsson promised to come, and fixed a certain evening.

But it happened on the morning of the day agreed upon that the singer received a visit from the Queen's bandmaster, who bore with him her Majesty's order for Madame Nilsson to sing at the Court Concert at Buckingham Palace. What should she do? Not obey the Queen's command? Not sing at Court! Why, every artist coming to London, desired, before all, the honour of being invited to Court! Besides might not her Majesty be much displeased if she declined?

But Nilsson thought of the disappointment of the little ones, should she fail to appear as promised, and so she told her Majesty's bandmaster that she was very sorry not to be able to accept the Queen's invitation for that evening, as she had an engagement which she could not evade; and that at any future opportunity she would be happy to receive her Majesty's command, but that she could not sing at Court that evening.

The messenger returned, revolving in his mind how he would lay before her Majesty the message that Madame Nilsson had something else to do. However, he had to say it. But what was his astonishment when, instead of the royal frown he expected, he heard the august lady say—

"Oh, I know! I know! I have been told what that engagement is, and a noble heart she has! Put Madame Nilsson down at once for the next Court concert, and ask her what day she can give me the pleasure of singing to me personally at Windsor."

The royal courier returned to Nilsson to give her orders, and thus Madame Nilsson was invited to Windsor, where the Queen, with her own hands, put a bracelet of rubies and diamonds on her wrist.

Diamonds and rubies! From the Queen! They were beautiful, but far more beautiful were those feelings of the great singer's heart which they rewarded, and which all may have. "The cup of water," of which the Bible speaks, is more than diamonds and rubies.

PUTTING AN EGG IN A BOTTLE.

This looks like a puzzle a good deal harder to explain than the king's question how the apple got into the dumpling; but, like many other curious things, it is easy enough when you know how.

Soak a fresh egg for several days in strong vinegar. The acid of the vinegar will eat the lime of the shell, so that while the egg looks the same, it will be soft and capable of compression. Select a bottle with a neck a third smaller than the egg. With a little care you will have no trouble in pressing the latter into the bottle. Fill the bottle half-full of lime-water, and in a few days you will have a hard-shelled egg in a bottle with a neck a third smaller than the egg. Of course, you pour off the limewater as the shell hardens. How the egg got into the bottle will be a conundrum that few can answer.

Nothing more clearly indicates the true gentleman than a desire evinced to oblige or accommodate.

History is replete with moral lessons, the unstability of human power, the tyranny of man over his brother, and the painful truth that the great are not always the good, mark almost every feature of its annals.

The gloomy soul aggravates misfortune, while a cheerful smile often dispels those mists which portend a storm.

HORNE TOOKE having challenged Wilkes, who was then Sheriff of London and Middlesex, received the following laconic reply:—"Sir,—I do not think it my business to cut the throat of every desperado that may be tired of his life; but as I am at present High Sheriff of the City of London, it may happen that I shall shortly have an opportunity of attending you in my official capacity, in which case I will answer for it that *you shall have no ground* to complain of my endeavours to serve you."

CONJURER, pointing to a large cabinet: "Now ladies and gentlemen, allow me to exhibit my concluding trick. I would ask any lady in the company to step on the stage and stand in this cupboard. I will then close the door. When I open it again the lady will have vanished without leaving a trace behind." Brute in front seat, aside to his wife: "I say, old woman, do me a favour, and step up."

A WEALTHY Marquis who died in Paris some time ago, was so parsimonious that, seeing his servant one day with a smart-looking hat, he reprimanded him for his extravagance. "But it is the old hat you gave me; I had it ironed for a franc." "Indeed," said the Marquis, "I did not know it could be restored. Here is the franc you paid—I will take the hat,"—and he forthwith transferred the renovated *chapeau* to his own head.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, JAN. 21st.—Before the Rev J. P. De Pledge (chairman), and Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Benjamin Porter (who was represented by his wife) was charged by P.C. Crabb with being drunk and cursing and swearing at Burnhope, on Nov. 28th.—Fined 5s and costs.

GAME TRESPASS NEAR CONSETT.

Three ironworkers, named *Thomas* and *John Parker*, and *John Thomas*, of Consett, all pleaded guilty to trespassing in pursuit of game on land in the occupation of Mr Thomas Carr, farmer, Dyke Nook, on January 10th.—John Walton, gamekeeper over the Woodlands Estate, espied the defendants, between eleven and twelve o'clock on Sunday forenoon, at work at some rabbit-holes. He went across to them, when John Parker ran away. He got hold of the other two, and took them back to the place, where he discovered a ferrit in one of the holes. In Thomas's pockets he likewise found two nets.—The Chairman said the men were evidently old offenders; but they declared that this was their first offence.—They were fined 40s each and costs; but not being in a position to pay, they were committed to gaol for a month.

A "SPONGING" BACCHANALIAN.

Bernard Connolly, a coke-drawer, who stated that he recently was employed at the South Medomsley Collieries, also pleaded guilty to charges of drunkenness and wilful damage, committed at the Commercial Hotel, West Stanley.—Prisoner, it appears, entered Mr Clarkson's house about six o'clock on the preceding (Wednesday) evening, in a beastly state of intoxication, and endeavoured to "sponge" some drink from the regular customers. As the man did not succeed in this *ruse*, he became extremely violent, and Mr Clarkson was compelled to eject him. On reaching the street, the man's conduct was somewhat turbulent. He picked up a piece of slag, about the size of a man's head, and tossed the ponderous missile right through the plate-glass door, breaking a square of the value of 5s. Subsequently, P.C. Robinson took prisoner into custody for being drunk and riotous in the street.—The charge of drunkenness was dismissed; but for the wilful damage case, prisoner was sent to gaol for one month's hard labour without the option of a fine.

ROUGH HANDLING ALL ROUND.

Peter and *John Crane*, father and son, were placed in the dock and found guilty of committing a violent assault upon Patrick Carroll, a powerfully-built fellow, at West Stanley, on the 16th inst.—Prisoners had gone to complainant's lodgings, the elder one pulling him off the chair, while the son assisted. A severe scuffle ensued, and whilst Carroll's antagonists had him laid upon the floor, and were "pitching in" to him, the former snatched up the red hot poker, wherewith to protect himself. He burnt his hand most seriously, his right arm being in a sling, besides exhibiting other scars on the head and face. Other lodgers in the house came to complainant's assistance, or else he would have been almost done to death. A serious affray, however, had taken place. On Peter's head, there was an ugly wound, covered with a patch of sticking plaster, the same having been inflicted (so he alleged) by the complainant felling him with the poker. The other defendant denied taking part in the rumpus, although his forehead was cut and bruised.—Mrs Crane, who gave testimony on behalf of the defendants, also possessed a shocking-looking black eye, which was considerably swollen and much inflamed, and was only partially concealed with a huge bandage. She alleged that Carroll gave her the black eye by dealing the first blow, and she obtained a summons for assault against her assailant.—Sergt. Tranmer stated that he knew nothing about the *fracas*.—Defendants were fined £1 1s, including costs; in default, to be imprisoned for 14 days.

LOCAL HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.—Braes of Derwent—Sat., Jan. 23rd, Prudhoe; Wed., 26th, Whickham—10·30. North Durham—Mon., Jan. 25th, Maiden Law; Wed., 27th, Pity Me; Fri., 29th, Stoney Gate—10·45 a.m.

FURTHER POSTPONEMENT OF THE STANLEY AND OXHILL COURSING.—At a meeting of the committee held last (Thursday) night, at Mr J. Errington's, Ox Inn, Oxhill, Mr R. Kay (secretary) stated that, in consequence of the recent snowstorms, it was out of question to think of coursing on the land on Saturday, and the above meeting was therefore peremptorily adjourned.

GRANGE VILLA PRIMITIVE METHODIST BAND OF HOPE.—This society gave another of their successful entertainments at Ouston Primitive Methodist Chapel, on Saturday, Mr T. Haddon presided. Capital selections of songs were sung by Messrs J. Grundy, R. Tones, J. Potts, and Miss E. Charlton. Mr J. Charlton officiated at the harmonium. Several good recitations and dialogues were given, and the meeting came to a close with loud applause.

CONSETT HEARSE & MOURNING ESTABLISHMENT.

T. C. RAWES & Co.,
CONSETT,

IN tendering their best thanks for the liberal patronage bestowed upon them since they commenced the Cab and Funeral Business, begs respectfully to inform the Public that they have BOUGHT THE UNDERTAKING AND FUNERAL FURNISHING BUSINESS belonging to the late ROBERT JACKSON, Raglan Street, for the Manufacture of Coffins of every description, in the approved styles, and at prices suited to meet the requirements of all classes; and at the same time assure them that they have spared neither capital or labour to render every branch of the Establishment in Material and Equipments superior in every respect to any other. Orders received day and night.

Hearses and Mourning Coaches for Hire.

GEORGE AND J. HOPE,
MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS IN MARBLE, STONE, AND GRANITE,
CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL, AND BURNOPFIELD.
INSCRIPTIONS neatly executed in Town or Country.
Special Designs Estimates on application.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

CONSETT.—Front Street, 14th inst., the wife of Jasper Cockburn, of twins—daughters.

WHICKHAM.—Whickham House, 14th inst., the wife of Wm. Brown, of a son.

RYTON.—14th inst., the wife of Herbert Cranmer Harvey, of a daughter.

RIDING MILL.—18th inst., the wife of Robert Pybus, jun., of a son.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—Front Street, 19th inst., Frederick James Boal, child of William and Sarah Jane Boal, aged 7 years.

" 5, Medomsley Road, 18th inst., aged 35, Jane Ann, wife of John Graham.

At Templetown, 20th inst., aged 48 years, Robert Reed, eldest son of the late Thomas Reed, of Knitsley.

LANCHESTER.—15th inst., very suddenly, aged 85, Elizabeth Gray, widow of the late James Wilson Gray, of Burnhope.

CATCHGATE.—19th inst., aged 57, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Robert Taylor. Interment at Hare Law, on Saturday, at three o'clock p.m. Friends, please accept this intimation.

DIPTON.—Delight Road, 18th inst., aged 66, Mary Jane, wife of John Robinson.

WEST STANLEY.—17th inst., aged 64, Ann Indian Foster, wife of Wm. Foster.

WATERHOUSES.—13th inst., aged 18, William Rolfe.

RYTON.—Greenfield Place, 15th inst., Diana, relict of the late Wm. Dixon, of Willington Quay.

18th inst., aged 27, suddenly, Meggie, daughter of John White, Ryton Bar Moor, late of Whickham.

BLAYDON BURN.—19th inst., aged 3 years, Alice, daughter of James and Hannah Carnaffin.

GATESHEAD.—Airey Terrace, 18th inst., aged 27, Robert G. Mason, youngest son of R. and M. Mason, late of Burnopfield.

Printed and Published by ROBERT JACKSON, at the Atmospheric Printing Works, 59, Front Street, Consett.—Friday, January 22nd, 1886.